

# Church Pledges \$101,512 For Bold Missions

Sunday evening, Oct. 1, Calvary Baptist Church, Pascagoula, reported a total of \$101,512 pledged for Bold Mission Thrust, according to pastor Byron Mathis. This was in addition to the church's largest-ever church budget of \$140,000 for 1979.

This special pledging for Bold Mission Thrust is the result of a newly-implemented fund-raising campaign called Mission's Challenge Campaign, designed by the Mississippi Baptist Stewardship staff.

Calvary, Pascagoula is the first church in the Southern Baptist Convention to use this campaign procedure to raise monies for home and foreign mission projects related to the Southern Baptist Bold Mission Thrust emphasis. Half of the money will go to each of the two missions agencies.

Bold Mission Thrust, basically, is a commitment by Southern Baptists to provide a Christian witness to the whole world by the end of the century.

This fund-raising campaign provides for an intensive and extensive emphasis on missions education culminating in trained visitors going into every home in the membership seeking a weekly commitment to the new church budget and an over and above weekly commitment to Bold Mission Thrust.

The budget commitment is for one year and the mission commitment is for three years.

Why does this campaign produce such amazing results? There are several reasons: It achieves a level of mission education never before achieved in a church.

It seeks to reach every church family with an appeal for mission support. It takes mission giving out of the "token" category and places it in the "sacrificial" category.

The campaign places mission giving on a weekly basis rather than a couple of mild appeals made annually. It utilizes a high percentage of the church families in one way

or another in the campaign organization.

It is a carefully designed, professionally directed, program. And it begins with trained prayer visitors going into each home to commit every church family to pray for missions, missionaries, and the success of the campaign.

The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board is the only state Convention Board providing the churches of the state a professional director for such fund-raising efforts. In addition to the free services of a director for the campaign, an effort has been made by the Board staff to keep the cost of printing campaign materials to a bare minimum.

The total cost of the Pascagoula Campaign including the printing of a brochure, five weekly campaign papers, and a free church-wide banquet was about \$1,000.00. The promotion of the church budget was included in the effort. The cost to the church was four-tenths of one percent of the funds raised.

"Any church in the nation can use this program successfully if we can here on the Mississippi Coast," Mathis said. The Coast area has a very mobile population making it extremely difficult for churches there to develop strong leaders who are permanent residents of the community.

In the last three years Calvary Baptist Church has given a total of \$7,363.85 to home and foreign missions through the Annie Armstrong and Lottie Moon offerings. In the next three years they will contribute over \$100,000.00, an increase of 1,358 percent!

Any church in Mississippi that wants to become meaningfully involved in funding the BOLD MISSION THRUST has available to it a proven program of fund-raising. Churches will be helped on a "first come" basis.

John Alexander directed the Pascagoula Campaign. He observed, "We can no longer say we don't have the money to project the Bold Mission Thrust. We are now forced to find some other excuse if we fail to act."



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### Spraying Mission To Honduras

Kids in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, enthusiastically follow the spraying truck in a neighborhood. Five Mississippi Baptists participated in a mission trip to that country to help combat a serious outbreak of fever transmitted by mosquitoes. Stories and more pictures on page 2.

## Innovations Planned For State Convention

The program for the one hundred and forty-third session of the Mississippi Baptist Convention is now being finalized by the Order of Business Committee according to Jim Keith, chairman of the committee.

The 1978 Convention will be held at Jackson's First Baptist Church, Nov. 14-15, with a brief period of Convention business to be presented during the Brotherhood Rally on Monday evening, Nov. 13, at Daniel Memorial Baptist Church in Jackson.

The abbreviation of this year's Convention from three days to two is one of several bold and innovative features which will distinguish this year's program from former ones.

Previously lengthy reports from many people characterized Convention sessions. This year reports and

presentations have been considerably reduced and in many instances incorporated with others in an attempt to refine the program.

For the first time the President's address and the Convention Sermon will be featured in separate sessions. This will give proper place and emphasis to each.

Also, a special presentation addressing the increasing infringement of the government upon the church and its auxiliaries, especially as it affects the institutions of our state, will be a unique segment of this year's program.

These are only a few of the informative and inspiring contributions the 1978 State Convention program will make to the lives and ministries of Mississippi Baptists.

As the Order of Business Committee

completes its plans for this year's gathering, it challenges the Baptists of the state to begin making preparation now to attend what promises to be the most significant meeting in the Convention's history.

### Many Countries Are Stable

## Africa's 'Bad Press' Not Valid Say Mission Board Secretaries

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Press coverage of the political turmoil in some African nations has caused many to forget that a large number of African countries are stable and responsive to the gospel, two officials of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board have declared.

John E. Mills, secretary for West Africa, and Davis L. Saunders, secretary for Eastern and Southern Africa, especially want to get this point across to those now committing their lives to mission service.

West Africa, Mills said, is experiencing a period of great receptiveness to the gospel. But mission volunteers for that area have declined. He attributes this, at least in part, to the "bad press" Africa is receiving.

"All of Africa is not in political turmoil," said Mills. "The last politically connected fighting in West Africa was a civil war in Nigeria in 1970. Even the military control of Ghana recently changed hands without bloodshed."

Two of the nations of West Africa, Liberia and Nigeria, have Baptist heads of state and missionaries are welcomed in many nations.

"When changes of government have occurred in recent times, they have been peaceful," Mills continued. "And many nations have had very stable leadership, the same leadership, for more than 15 years. West Africa is working through the problems of new independence."

And the stability of some nations in Eastern and Southern Africa equals that of West Africa, according to Saunders. He pointed to the peaceful political situation in Kenya following the death of President Jomo Kenyatta.

### BSU Convention, Oct. 20-22

## Students To Hear Allen And Winders

By Betty Smith

Baptist college students from across the state will gather in Jackson, October 20-22, for the annual Mississippi Baptist Student Convention.

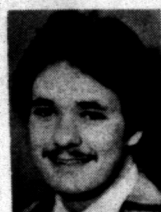
Broadmoor and Woodland Hills Baptist Churches will host the meeting. The theme is "Following Christ's Way" and the Friday night session begins at 7 o'clock at Broadmoor.

John Stanley, Mississippi College senior, state BSU president, will preside. Music for the convention will be under the direction of Larry Black, minister of music, First Baptist Church, Jackson.

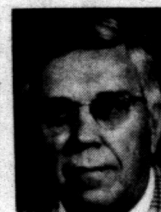
Featured platform speakers will include Jimmy R. Allen, pastor of First Baptist Church, San Antonio, Texas, and president of the Southern Baptist Convention; Curtis A. Burge, pastor of First Baptist Church, Greenwood; Ralph B. Winders, director of the Department of Student work of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board; Charles M. Roselle, secretary, National Student Ministries, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville; and Chester E. Swor, youth lecturer and author, Jackson.

William E. Hull, pastor of First Baptist Church, Shreveport, Louisiana, will lead three Bible study periods dealing with the Sermon on the Mount.

Conference periods will be offered Saturday morning and Saturday afternoon dealing with the following subjects: Marriage and the Family, led by Jeanette Phillips, faculty, Ole Miss;



Stanley Prayer, Mrs. James Travis, faculty, Blue Mountain College;



Winders Deepening Interpersonal Relationships, Mrs. J. Clark Hensley, homemaker, Jackson; Vocational Choice, Chester E. Swor; Home Mis-

sions, Pitts Hughes and Earlene Griesse, Home Mission Board, Atlanta; Foreign Missions, Charles Beckett, Foreign Mission Board, Richmond;

How To Witness, Len Turner, pastor, Colonial Heights Baptist Church, Jackson; The Christian Woman in Today's World, Rebecca Thompson, Dean of Student Affairs, William Carey; Putting Feet to Bold Missions Thrust, Charles Roselle; Dealing with Present Day Religious Movements, Jim Keith, pastor, First Baptist Church, Gulfport;

Affluent Christians in a Needy World, Guy Henderson, Stewardship (Continued on page 3)

## HMB's McCall To Speak At Brogan Inauguration

Emmanuel McCall of Atlanta will give the featured address during the inauguration ceremony of Richard A. (Dick) Brogan as president of the Mississippi Baptist Seminary.



McCall

of the Department of Cooperative Ministries with National Baptists for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Prior to his being elected president of the seminary, Brogan held a similar post with the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

In addition to his responsibilities at the Home Mission Board, McCall serves on the faculty of the Southern Baptist Theological seminary in Louisville, Ky., as coordinator of the Black Church Studies program.

He is a native of Sharon, Penn., and attended Simmons Bible College, the University of Louisville, Southern Seminary, and Emory University, earning the doctor of ministries degree from Emory in applied Christian ethics.

Mississippi Baptist Seminary is a joint ministry of black and white Baptists in Mississippi with trustees elected from the Mississippi Baptist and National Baptist Conventions in the state.

The seminary has a central center in Jackson and 22 extension centers across Mississippi.

## Gaines Dobbins, Pioneer SBC Educator Dies At 92

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP) — Pioneer Southern Baptist religious educator, Gaines S. Dobbins, 92, died Friday, Sept. 22, of an apparent heart attack at his home in Birmingham.

A native of Langsdale, Miss., Dobbins broke ground as the first Southern Baptist to teach Christian journalism, pastoral care, psychology of religion and church administration. He was on the faculty of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., for 36 years and was the seminary's first dean of the school of religious education.

In 1956, he retired and joined the faculty of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif., as distinguished professor of church administration. In 1968, Southern Seminary named him emeritus dean of the school of religious education and later established the Gaines S. Dobbins Chair of Church Administration, a permanently endowed professorship.

In 1976, at age 90, Dobbins returned to Southern Seminary to teach in several terms at Boyce Bible School, the seminary's theological training school for ministers without a college degree.

"Dr. Dobbins is one of the most remarkable men I have ever known," said Findley Edge, who succeeded

Dobbins as Basil Manly Professor of Religious Education at Southern Seminary. "Although he lived each day to the fullest, he was always looking to the future, seeking to find ways to improve the practical work of the local congregation."

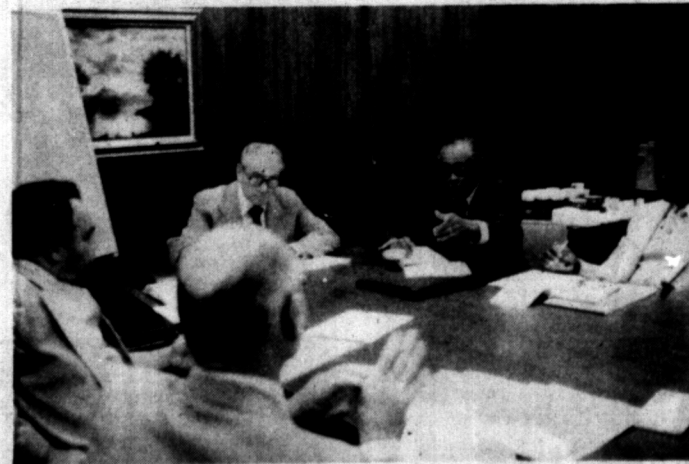
From the age of 12 until his death, Dobbins considered himself primarily a journalist. A printer's helper at age 12, shop foreman at 17, city editor of the Hattiesburg, Miss., "Saturday Evening Eye" at 19, Dobbins later served for 20 years, in addition to his seminary duties, as editor of "Home and Foreign Fields," predecessor of the SBC's present missions magazines.

Before joining the seminary, Dobbins spent brief periods as a pastor and college teacher and four years as an associate editor at the SBC Sunday School Board.

A prolific writer, Dobbins authored 32 books and was working on another until the time of his death. His most recent book, "Zest for Living," was published in 1977 and was written when Dobbins was 90.

He is said to have written more Sunday School lesson expositions, more Training Union programs, and more

(Continued on page 3)



### Good News Steering Committee

Fifteen members of the steering committee planning the Good News Baptist churches met this week at the Baptist Building in Jackson. A portion of the committee seated at one end of the table includes Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board and co-chairman of the committee, at the end of the table, and the other co-chairman, R. S. Porter of Columbia, president of the East Mississippi Baptist Convention, to Kelly's left. Next to Porter is David Matthews of Indianola, president of the General Baptist State Convention. To Kelly's right is J. R. Porter of Waynesboro, president of the South Mississippi Baptist State Convention; and at the bottom of the picture is Don McGregor, editor of the Baptist Record. Plans were expanded for a bi-racial rally on March 23 in Jackson as a kick-off for the simultaneous revivals all across the state in April. The revivals will be a part of Bold Mission Thrust endeavors in Mississippi. Witnessing training for pastors to use in training their laymen was scheduled for Dec. 7 and 8 at Sophia Sutton Assembly grounds near Prentiss.

## Brotherhood Rally Precedes Convention

The 1978 Mississippi Baptist Brotherhood Rally will feature William E. Thorn, president of Dallas Baptist College as after dinner speaker, and James B. Henry, pastor of First Baptist Church, Orlando, as speaker for the evening service.

The rally, set for Nov. 13, just prior to the annual meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, is divided into two parts: a banquet and a special service.

Both will be held at Daniel Memorial Baptist Church, 3784 Terry Road in Jackson, the banquet beginning at 5:30 p.m.; the service at 7:30.

The banquet will require tickets which may be purchased from the Brotherhood Department at P. O. Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205. But the service is open to all interested persons. Tickets for the banquet are \$3 per person. Deadline for ticket orders is Nov. 8.

Music for the banquet will feature "The Hometown Reunion Quartet," from Jackson. Clint Nichols will lead in song during the service. He is chairman of the music department at New Orleans Seminary.



# Dengue "War" Wins Friends In Honduras

The female of the species caused a lot of grief in Honduras this summer. The species is *Aedes Aegypti* and she's a mosquito. She transmitted a serious flu-like illness called Dengue (pronounced ding'-ee) to about 200,000 Hondurans.

The number stricken was kept this low because of the combined efforts of the Honduran government, a Southern Baptist medical missionary, and Baptist lay volunteers from both Honduras and the United States.

David Harms, medical evangelist, working near the El Salvador frontier, heard about the outbreak of Dengue fever in early August. We got a book on tropical fever, read it and called the authors back in the States on his ham radio. The authors suggested others with whom to talk.

He called Walter Reed Hospital and an expert said that only a few people had been vaccinated against the fever and it was too early for field trials. The only thing that would work would be to control the vector — the mosquito which transmits the fever from one person to another.

R. L. Tindol, a Baptist layman in Atlanta and a pest control expert, contacted by ham radio, told Harms what kind of pesticide and machines were needed. Then Harms went to the Honduran health department which sent him to the mosquito control office. Short on the necessary supplies, the mosquito control people requested that the Honduras Baptist Mission obtain a spraying machine and the insecticide.

The national Baptist convention adopted the project and kicked in \$2,000 toward purchase of equipment. The Foreign Mission Board responded with \$10,000.

Three used spraying machines were purchased and brought into the country duty-free, installed on trucks belonging to the Baptist mission, and the insecticide malathion was purchased.

Harms explained that the reason laymen from the states were brought in was because of the Hondurans' identification of North Americans with technology.

A group from Louisiana came first, a couple of men from Oklahoma and

Tennessee, then the spraying was continued by groups from Mississippi and Florida. To effectively wipe out the mosquitoes, which only fly about 25 yards from their birthplace, takes three 10-day rounds of spraying. This kills the newly hatched.

Prior to the spraying, a group of 16 Honduran Baptists and 100 Honduran soldiers took a door to door survey in San Pedro Sula (where half the cases were reported) to teach people to get rid of breeding places such as old rubber tires — any place that holds water. And they taught people to wash out their water holding tanks, plus they applied a larvacide to the tanks.

Health Department officers supervised the spraying and helped with the routing of the trucks which went everywhere — from the downtown streets to the red light-shanties.

The sprayers received accolades for their work — the people readily recognized the aid being given. Though a brick was thrown at one truck, missing the driver, Joe Waggener of Crystal Springs, Miss. by only a foot, most kids cheered and adults smiled and waved — and covered their mouths — the spray tasted awful.

Waggener reported kids chased the truck for four blocks before he realized they were trying to return the sprayer's filter which had fallen off the machine.

The week before the Mississippi and Florida crews were in town, only 12 cases of Dengue fever were reported.

But as the incidence of fever went down, the public relations of Baptists in Honduras improved. Baptists had had "a low profile," said Harms. However, Baptists were quickly identified as the "Dengue people."

## Credited Baptists

The Louisiana volunteers were on national television. Newspaper headlines read: "Baptists Declare War on Dengue." Honduran Baptist preachers made television and radio interviews. The minister of health in a press conference credited the Baptists with being a great help.

On Sept. 15 — Honduras' independence day — the Baptist participated in the parade in San Pedro Sula. Two of the trucks equipped for spraying, plus the mission's van, drove in the procession with Nationals passing out tracts in Spanish.

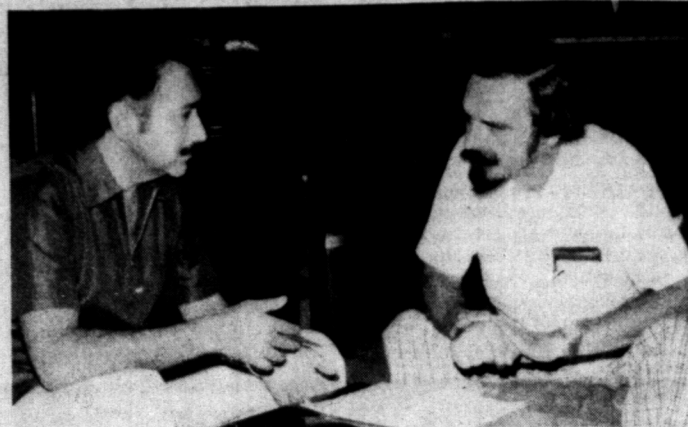
The tracts were especially written by Harms in connection with the Dengue work. Entitled "Dengue and Your Spiritual Health," the tracts pictured the devil and a mosquito on the front. Harms, who sports a handlebar moustache and goatee, had to change the picture of the devil before publication — because Harms thought it looked too much like himself.

The spraying has further implications. Harms, in late September, had begun working with Ramon Custodia, a Honduran clinical pathologist, who volunteered his clinic to do blood tests for proper diagnosis of Dengue.

And Harms woke up the vice minister of health, Manuel Octavio Suazo, at six a.m. to make a radio patch to the office of the mayor of New Orleans to begin plans for the City of New Orleans to equip a Honduran DC-3 for spraying in other parts of the country.

Harms is establishing rapport through the Dengue work that he had not been able to before in his six years in Honduras. And he's become involved in something more than remediation. The Dengue work was prevention.

And an ounce of prevention can kill a lot of mosquitoes.



Medical missionary David Harms discusses possibilities of blood tests with Honduran clinical pathologist Ramon Custodia.



This is transportation for this family which lives in the "suburban village" at San Pedro Sula where spraying was done. Extreme poverty was evident in the city, but poverty was not the only lifestyle. Other areas of Honduras which were sprayed included homes of the wealthy and a large middle class.



These Floridians repaired this Baptist-owned truck in Honduras by ham radio. The Baptist Record will explain in a story next week.

## Mississippians Add To Dengue Solution

James Tribble, a member of First Baptist Church in Grenada says he spent his first 31 years running from God.

In June, along with his wife, he made a profession of faith. In July, he was baptized. In September he was on a mission trip to Honduras.

He joined four of his fellow Mississippi Baptists for a week in San Pedro Sula, the second largest city in Honduras (pop. 250,000) when they went to help with the spraying to eliminate mosquitoes which were spreading Dengue fever.

It was a rush job, Mississippi Baptists only had a short time to get volunteers together. The Foreign Mission Board phoned Paul Harrell, state director of Brotherhood, asking him to get a team together. Harrell asked his associate, Rusty Griffin to coordinate the trip.

Griffin contacted state Baptist disaster relief coordinators and he requested information be placed in the Baptist Record. Two coordinators were able to go: Omega Shamblin, member of First Baptist Church, Vicksburg, and Joe Waggener, assistant pastor and minister of education for First Baptist Church, Crystal Springs.

Tribble, who said he'd begun "thinking about the seriousness of making a commitment," when he saw that "jumping off the page of the Baptist Record was the story about Honduras. He knew this was what he needed to do. The other team member was the associate editor of the Record.

Harms had sent out a general request for help over his ham radio and ended up with two groups in San Pedro Sula the same week — one from Mississippi and one from Florida.

With only two of the three spraying trucks in running condition, the job was slightly over-manned.

Everyone was up at 4 a.m. to begin the spraying before the city streets were filled with the citizens beginning

their routines. Waggener and Shamblin primarily worked one truck about eight hours a day: from 5-9 a.m. then from about 4-8 p.m. Those were the times of day the mosquitoes were flying — and biting.

Two on the Florida team drove the other truck while three days, two other Floridians rebuilt the transmission of the third truck, and the rest worked on a house for a national Baptist pastor.

Omega Shamblin, 69, of Vicksburg, retired from the Corps of Engineers says he went to Honduras because of "the widow's mite." He said "That's about all I've got left and I promised it to the Lord and that's it."

Joe Waggener, of Crystal Springs, had been teaching missions to Royal Ambassadors and was ready to go when the invitation came. His pastor Estus Mason told him the church could do without him for the time necessary.

Waggener's, Shamblin's, and Tribble's travel expenses were paid by their respective churches.

Rusty Griffin, a member of First Baptist Church, Brandon, felt confident that the work the group did actually helped the people. In addition to spraying, most crew members helped with the building of the pastor's home which included building trusses, raising them, putting asbestos roofing on, and putting on flooring for the second story.

That work was supervised by missionary Leslie Keyes who lives in Honduras and directs the San Pedro Sula branch of the Baptist Bible Institute. Half the crews stayed at his home and half in an unused (and unfurnished) missionary home nearby.

"I think the missionaries felt supported in what they're doing," said Griffin. "Seems like they have a tendency to feel isolated and on another planet. Physically somebody cares, came down and worked and fellow-shipped with them."

He continued, "I hope this will encourage others to go out."

Stories and Photos By Tim Nicholas



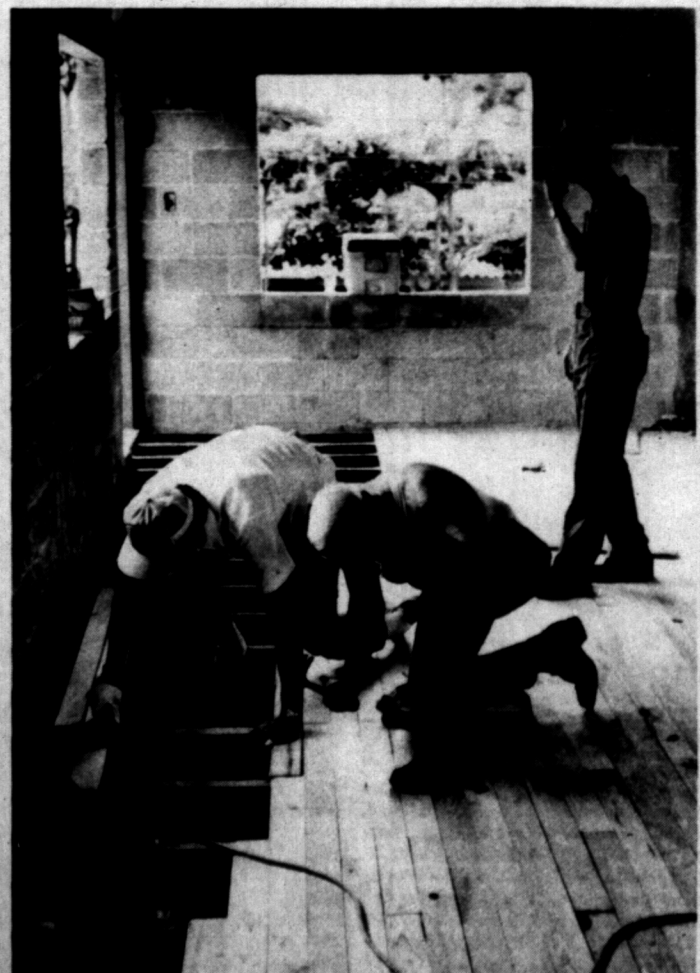
The sprayers tried to hit the downtown areas before they were filled with people. The spray tasted and smelled awful



Omega Shamblin of Vicksburg and Joe Waggener of Crystal Springs prepare their truck for a day of spraying malathion, the only poison available which would kill the mosquito causing the Dengue fever.



Omega Shamblin and David Harms plan the next day's route for spraying.



Rusty Griffin, of the Brotherhood staff, and a Florida volunteer nail down the flooring in a national pastor's home. Joe Waggener has just handed them a board.



Preparation of the chemicals and the trucks began shortly after 4 a.m. each morning.



James Tribble of Grenada and Joe Waggener of Crystal Springs cut the flooring to meet the supports of the pastor's home.



"Conservative With Openness. . ."

# Committee Sets Guides For Routh Successor

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — The Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention approved guidelines for a successor to Executive Secretary-Treasurer Porter W. Routh, who will retire Aug. 1, 1979, and took some preliminary steps honoring him for more than 27 years in the post.

Brooks Wester, chairman of both the search committee and the Executive Committee, said the search committee has no specific successor yet in mind and urged persons to send suggestions for a successor and a biographical resume for each.

A successor is expected to be elected at the February, 1979, meeting of the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee voted to supplement Routh's retirement income with \$500 per month, which would increase with cost of living, and continue to provide half of that amount and half of his survivor annuity to his wife in the event of his death.

Other actions included providing expenses for continuing secretarial assistance to Routh and paying expenses of the Rouths to Baptist meetings, such as the 1980 Baptist World Alliance meeting in Toronto and annual meetings of the Southern Baptist Convention. The Rouths were also given a three-week vacation trip following a Baptist World Alliance meeting in Brighton, England, next summer.

The guidelines said the person succeeding Routh should have extensive qualifications in the personal, public, professional and Southern Baptist areas.

**Unimpeachable Integrity**  
Personally, the successor should have "a deep and growing experience in Christ as evidenced in devotion to the Lordship of Christ; unimpeachable integrity in the home, the local church and the wider world in which this person must function; unquestioned honesty in financial responsibilities; active involvement in the life of a local Baptist congregation; sound doctrine — theologically conservative with openness to all segments of Southern Baptist life."

In the public sphere, the Executive Committee approved search committee recommendations that the successor be "able to relate effectively with other persons, including ministers, lay persons, agency administrators and denominational leaders; able to represent Southern Baptists favorably with religious and other leaders; re-

spected for moral convictions and business acumen."

Professional qualifications call for "a thorough knowledge of, and demonstrated skill in, administrative competence; business acumen that can be helpful to every entity of Southern Baptist life when called on, effective(ness) in speech and writing. . ."

From a Southern Baptist Convention perspective he or she should have "knowledge of, through participation in and study of, Baptist history, ecclesiology and polity; thorough knowledge of the work of the Executive Committee and all the agencies of the Southern Baptist Convention as clearly presented in the bylaws of the convention and the personnel manual of the Executive Committee, (with) special attention . . . given to the section titled — Executive Secretary — in the manual; . . . mediating gifts, which include openness, fairness and patience; dynamic vision of the future of the Lord's work among Southern Baptists and commitment to implementation of plans formulated in Bold Mission Thrust (the SBC plan to proclaim the message of Christ to the entire world in this century)."

**Other Qualifications**  
Additionally, the committee approved 14 other qualifications, declaring that the successor should be "thoroughly conversant with the main streams of Baptist thinking, personally acquainted with the principal Baptist leaders in the convention and in the states; thoroughly familiar with the organizational concepts and methods traditionally followed by Baptists, able to identify quickly basic problems and issues, able to analyze situations to determine relevant facts and their significance; able to propose workable solutions to problems with all reasonable alternatives explored, able to express himself forcibly in both speech and writing, content to render advice and permit the final decision to be made on a group basis."

Also the successor should be able "to follow through on decisions to determine that action is taken as requested or directed, able to guide and direct professional staff members without himself performing the professional part of each assignment; able to work on a cooperative basis with others on mutual problems, able to plan his work and assign priorities in a fashion that will secure performance at the same time it is required, able to develop committee agenda and provide advice

and assistance to committee deliberations without usurping the functions of the committee itself, able to integrate proposals or decisions of committees and other groups into well-rounded and sound over-all plans."

Besides Wester, pastor, First Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, Miss., other committee members include H. Franklin Paschall, pastor, First Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn.; Mrs. Roy (Anita) Bass of Lubbock, Texas; Paul Cravens, pastor, First Baptist Church, Charleston, S. C.; Conrad Johnston, pastor, Salem Baptist Church, Salem, Va.; James Jones, pastor, First Baptist Church, Trenton, Mich.; and Rodney Landes, El Dorado, Ark.

## Baptist Students

(Continued from page 1)

Department, MBCB; Developing a Healthy Self-Image, Rebecca Thompson; Coping with Grief and Death, Gordon Shamburger, Chaplain, Mississippi Baptist Medical Center, Jackson; Biblical View of Sex, Jim Keith.

The Saturday night session will begin at 7 o'clock at Woodlands Hills Church. Ralph B. Winders will bring the main address. In business session, the convention will adopt the Student Missions Program for 1978-79, with a recommended financial goal of \$50,000.

Immediately following the Saturday night program, there will be a reception honoring Mr. and Mrs. Winders. Winders will retire in May, 1979, after serving as Director of the Department of Student Work, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, for 22 years.

The Sunday morning session begins at 8:45 at Woodlands Hills with the concluding address by Chester Swor. Other features of the weekend will include: reports from 1978 summer missionaries, special music groups from different campuses, and campus altars.

All sessions of the convention are open to the public.

For further information, students may contact the BSU Director on their campus.

## Vocal And Choral Spiritual Growth Clinic To Be At Baptist Building

The Church Music Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, is sponsoring a two-day Vocal and Choral Spiritual Growth Clinic Oct. 26-27.

The clinic will be held in the

### Robert Carlisle Dies Sept. 30

Robert Carlisle of Ethel, La., died Sept. 30, in Illinois while on a trip. He was the brother of Holmes Carlisle, director of missions in Scott County, Miss.

Carlisle was a retired Southern Baptist foreign missionary to Uruguay and is a native of Wesson, Miss.

He is survived by his wife, Ruth, and their four sons and four daughters. One son, Jason, is now a missionary in Uruguay.

Carlisle was buried at Wesson with funeral services at Sylvarena Baptist Church in Copiah County.

**Belling Springs, N. C. (BP)** — Gardner-Webb College's board of trustees has reaffirmed the Baptist school's 73-year-old policy not to seek or accept federal funds. Just after kicking off a \$10.5 million basic needs campaign, Gardner-Webb President Craven E. Williams told trustees, "It is time to do more than pay lip service to the principle of independent education. It is time to set an example, to be that voice which does more than cry in the wilderness." Williams said that "independence, individuality, and autonomy, now as never before, are the cry of the American people, of those who want to take control of their own destiny."

## Messenger Selection Time Is Now

Jim Keith, Chairman  
Order of Business Committee

The time has come for the Southern Baptist churches of the state to select messengers to represent them at the Mississippi Baptist Convention which will meet in Jackson on November 13-15. According to the Convention Constitution each regular Baptist church in Mississippi is "entitled to one messenger for the first hundred, or fraction thereof, of its membership, and one messenger for each additional one hundred members, or major fraction thereof, but no church shall be entitled to more than ten messengers." These selected messengers, after registering upon arrival

at the primary site of the Convention, Jackson's First Baptist Church, will compose the official body responsible for transacting the business to be considered at the 1978 meeting.

The Order of Business Committee of the Mississippi Baptist Convention encourages the churches of the state to select the appropriate number of messengers soon, publicize the purpose, program and personalities of this year's gathering and extend the invitation for all to come and share in this significant and inspiring moment. Your messengers will meet with those of other churches in the state in less than five weeks!



## Sunflower Baptists Hold Bible Clubs At Parchman

Children of the staff at Parchman State Penitentiary attended Vacation Bible Clubs July 17-21 at Lake Lodge, owned by the Penitentiary.

The clubs were operated by churches of Sunflower Baptist Association through Ronald Padgett's office at the prison. Padgett is a Church of God chaplain there. There is not a Baptist chaplain at the facility.

The ministry was conceived during a meeting with the chaplain and Granville Watson, Sunflower director of missions which was to make plans for ministries to the inmates. The children of guards, maintenance personnel, it was discovered numbered around 75.

Mike Thrower and Wayne Fults, missions director and Vacation Bible School director, respectively, organized six VBS teams to do Backyard

Bible Clubs.

They gathered volunteers from Drew, Moorhead, Roundaway, Sunflower, Baptist churches, plus Pilgrim Rest Church of God near Indianola and held the clubs after an orientation session with the chaplain to discuss regulations and procedures at the penitentiary.

The first day drew 35 children and by Friday the group had worked with 58.

At the end of the week a commencement service was held with VBS certificates given to the children and honorary inmate certificates to the workers.

Many of the children, according to Fults, dedicated their lives afresh for Christ and the group planted the seed for several that wanted to know more about Christ.

## Baylor Receives Ham Radio Equipment

"Missionary kids" attending Baylor University will soon be able to contact their parents in Central and South America, using ham radio equipment recently installed on the Baylor campus.

The transmitting equipment, valued at about \$3,000, was presented Thursday by Milton O. Davis, retired minister in Tyler, who led the drive to finance the equipment. Davis, a 1930 Baylor graduate, has helped provided ham radios for more than 30 missionaries throughout the world.

As soon as the antenna is installed atop Sid Richardson Science Building, messages will be transmitted daily between Baylor students and lonely missionary parents abroad, said Davis.

Davis, a ham operator since 1959, became interested in radios when his daughter was considering a missions appointment to Africa. Although she changed her plans about a missions career, Davis retained his interest in ham radios.

Almost every day at 1 p.m. he tunes

into the "Halo Net," a ham radio network linking missionaries in Africa and Latin America with the United States. Established in the 1960's, the network relays emergency messages, prayer requests, and long-distance "family reunions."

## Bad Press In Africa

(Continued from page 1)

had the missionaries, we could make a real impact."

There are only 134 missionaries assigned to Nigeria, the oldest active SBC mission field, where once there were 254. Mills said there are more baptisms and church members in Nigeria than ever before and the sacrifice of more than 130 years is finally coming to fruition.

## Gaines Dobbins Dies At 92

(Continued from page 1)

articles dealing with religious education than any other person.

Dobbins, a graduate of Mississippi College, received his Ph.D. degree from Southern Seminary in 1914. He later received a masters degree from Columbia University.

Funeral services for Dobbins were held Sept. 25, at the Shades Mountain Baptist Church in Birmingham, where he was an active member involved in teacher training and pastoral care.

## Gulfshore Schedule

Here's the schedule for Gulfshore Baptist Assembly through early December. Some of these dates can accommodate other groups. Groups interested in using the facilities, contact Frank Simmons, Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Pass Christian, Miss., 39571, or phone 452-7261.

Oct. 6-8 First Church, Jackson, singles retreat;

Oct. 20-21 University Church, Hattiesburg family retreat;

Oct. 27-29 Keesler Protestant retreat;

Nov. 10-11 Keesler Protestant retreat, Salvation Army retreat;

Nov. 17-18 First Church, Wiggins;

Nov. 17-19 Gulf Coast Junior College BSU;

Nov. 24-25 First Church, Belle Chase, La. retreat;

Nov. 29-Dec. 2 National Student Ministries; state BSU directors;

Dec. 8-9 First, Brookhaven young adult retreat.

## Newsbriefs

**Charlotte, N. C. (RNS)** — Mecklenburg County and Charlotte have become the first areas in North Carolina to approve sale of liquor by the drink. Voters endorsed the move by 65,612 to 30,192. Churchmen, predominantly Baptist and Methodist, who had conducted a campaign against the proposal, expressed fear that the vote would have a "domino effect" in other cities and counties where referendum on the decades-old issue are planned.

**Moscow (RNS)** — Joseph Bondarenko, a Baptist preacher from Riga, Latvia, has been sentenced to three years in a strict-regime labor camp on a conviction of organizing a demonstration and resisting an official. The preacher, who has already spent five years in labor camps in the Caucasus, was sentenced in Krasnodar. He was arrested in that city in May with some 400 other Christians who were prevented by police from meeting in an officially registered Baptist church. Most of the others arrested were released within 24 hours.

**Bali, Indonesia (RNS)** — Forty-six Christian artists from all parts of Asia concluded a week-long consultation here by organizing an "Association of Christian Artists in Asia." The association will seek to promote the use of indigenous Asian art forms in the illustration of Christian themes, to encourage young Christian artists, and to find ways in which the Asian churches can be made more aware of the riches of their own culture.

**New York (RNS)** — Church World Service (CWS), the international relief and development arm of the National Council of Churches (NCC), has dispatched a shipment of material aid to strife-torn Nicaragua. Responding to a request by Cepad, an ecumenical service agency of the Nicaraguan evangelical Churches, CWS shipped out 5,000 blankets, 100 bales of clothing, and 1,000 feet of nylon-reinforced plastic for temporary shelter for distribution by Cepad.

## The Missions Task Literature To Zambia

By John Alexander, Director  
Stewardship Department

In the mail today was a kind letter from Helen McNeely of Lusaka, Zambia. Don McNeely is business manager for the Baptist Mission of Zambia. A few months ago this space ran a request for unused Sunday School quarterlies.

Helen says, "You can be sure that you are well read by Mississippi Baptists! We have received some of the finest letters. Many have boxed literature and sent it. We are now beginning to receive it. It has been a real source of fun for us to distribute it."

"As the packages arrive at the post office and we get notice that they are there I hurry down to get them. I have started opening them before I get into the car. People are so curious. They wonder what this 'Mzungu' has in her box. My immediate question to the nearest person is, 'Can you read English?' Then I start to hand it out. Just this week I was talking to a teenage girl and her mother. The young girl could read and speak English, the mother could not. They were walking by our house and I was in the yard. I called out to her and she came over. I asked if she would like a book to read. She responded 'yes' eagerly. I explained to her that the Adult Sunday School Quarterly was a book that had Bible stories and Bible verses. She could read this and learn about God and His wonderful love for her. As I watched her walk away with the books in her hand she was reading it aloud to her mother (in Chinyanja). (She would read a line in English and then tell her mother in her language.)

"Some have written asking questions about the work here and ways that they can help. To those that ask I answer telling them things that their WMU can do if they want. There are other ways, too, that groups can help."

Our missionaries in English language countries still need that unused literature which many churches simply discard at the end of the quarter. You can be assured that it will be distributed and read if you care to send it overseas.

The address is: Helen McNeely, Baptist Mission of Zambia, Box RW 599, Lusaka, Zambia. It should be well boxed and tied and shipped "boat mail." Mark it: "For missionary use only." Secure a customs form from your local post office. Indicate that the content is printed material with no cash value.

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# The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

## Editorials

### Churches Need Convention . . .

## Convention Needs Messengers

For the past two years, material has been used in this space to try to point out that attendance at the Mississippi Baptist Convention is not what it should be. There are about 1,920 churches affiliated with the convention, and each one is entitled to at least one messenger. Yet total registration last year stumbled along to about 1,300.

It is true that many of our churches are small and served by bi-vocational pastors who are unable to attend. It is true also that many laymen are unable to get away from work in order to be at the convention.

When the membership goes past 150, however, the church is entitled to at least two messengers. The constitution stipulates that every church is entitled to one messenger for the first hundred members or fraction thereof and one additional messenger for each additional one hundred members or major fraction thereof. The limit on the total number of messengers for any church is 10.

#### Many Factors

There are many factors involved in convention attendance, and this column would be the first to admit that it is not as simple as it sounds. At any given time there may be about 1,500 churches in the state with pastors, and many of these may be those who must work in addition to their pastoral duties in order to provide a living for their families. Many full-time pastors

may have working wives.

So to say that every church should have at least one messenger and that the pastor and his wife should attend from churches with 150 or so members is not being completely objective about the situation.

The annual convention is a very important meeting, however, and it should be attended by those who are able to do so and who are elected as messengers. It is the most important meeting during any year for Mississippi Baptists. It is not the largest by any means, for the youth night with upwards of 10,000 each year has established itself in that category. But it is the most important.

This is a plea, then, for churches to find out who can attend the convention and elect that person or those persons as messengers. And it is a plea for those so elected to begin building their interest in the affairs of the convention and to make plans to attend it.

#### Everyone Good

Every convention is a good one. This is the time we decide what we are going to do about witnessing to a lost world during the coming year. What can provide a more interesting content or a nobler purpose than that?

There will be other areas of highly important business which must be attended to; and, as is usually the case, there will be some of the finest speakers in the nation on the program for inspiration.

The presidents of both the Southern

Baptist Convention and the Mississippi Baptist Convention will be speakers. They are Jimmy Allen, pastor of First Church, San Antonio, Texas, and Bob Hamblin, pastor of Harrisburg Church, Tupelo. The convention sermon will be delivered by Joe McKeever, pastor of First Church, Columbus. Keith Parks, director of the Mission Support Division of the Foreign Mission Board, will speak; and the closing message will be delivered by Clyde Fant, former professor of preaching at Southwestern Seminary, who is now pastor of First Church, Richardson, Texas, a suburb of Dallas.

A special feature this year will be a discussion of church-state relations. This hour-long presentation will find Clark Hensley, executive director of the Mississippi Christian Action Commission, discussing "The Infringement of the State"; and John W. Baker, associate director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, discussing "The Response of the Church."

The format is changed somewhat for this year's convention. Rather than beginning on Tuesday morning and closing at noon on Thursday, the convention will be on Tuesday and Wednesday for the most part with a brief opening session on Monday evening during the Brotherhood Rally.

#### Interesting Program

It is an interesting program, and it

should demand the attention of messengers throughout its sessions.

Baptists are numerous in Mississippi. Possibly this state has the greatest ratio of Baptists to the population of any of the 50. This might be an occasion for apathy, however. There could be so many of us that we take ourselves for granted. Others in observation of us might not see much in us to be excited about. We might be so common that we don't make much of an impact; but it is not necessarily so. We could have a tremendous impact for good on our state.

In this state populated to such a great extent by Baptists we have alcohol flowing freely and one elected official after another being charged with improper conduct in office. It should not be this way. Our influence should count for enough that the atmosphere in our state would not allow such conditions.

The local church is the base of operations for everything that goes on in Baptist life. And the way to begin welding the churches across the state into a common force for good is to have messengers in attendance at the state convention who can return to their churches with the inspiration and the challenges ringing in their hearts.

The convention is a vital necessity. Let's give it a first-rate effort. Churches, if your pastor and his wife can attend, see that their expenses are paid. They need to attend.



## Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

### . . . Goodness and Mercy . . .

The car pulls to the right with a sharp jerk and drags me off the edge of the pavement. I know in that instant that what I have long feared has finally happened. As I step out of the car I suddenly feel as low and flat as that right front tire.

It's late afternoon but still hot, and I'm alone on I-85, at least ten miles from Montgomery. There are still ahead of me 260 of the 350 miles from Mama's house to Jackson.

Right away I think of the many times I've told W. D. I would learn to change a tire, but failed to try. Then I think how much I need him to help now. If I could just call him, he could quickly remedy the situation — but of course there's no telephone in the car. Besides, he's at work. Otherwise, he'd be here.

And I think of the times Uncle Zeddie has told me not to leave so late in the afternoon when I go to visit Mama. But I'd better stop standing here and do something.

Ask, and it shall be given you. . . I see a house across the interstate, way down next to the woods. There's a car in the yard. But no one is in sight. There are two houses on my side of the road, about a quarter mile away. They look deserted, too. Fences along both sides of the highway are higher than my head.

And our best wishes to Frank Pollard in his new broadcast endeavor. May the cause of Christ be served to the greatest extent possible in each of these instances.

. . . every one that asketh receiveth. . .

The cars go by. Swish! Swish! Swish! Nobody will stop. . . with God nothing shall be impossible. . .

I wonder how far the nearest station is. Should I start walking? First I'll try to climb the fence to one of those houses. I begin to walk up and down, up and down, trying to figure a way to get over.

Ask and ye shall receive. At last I give up trying to solve the problem myself.

Father, I don't know what to do. Will you help me?

A car passes — slows — stops. A man gets out and walks back. He says, "I saw your Hinds County tag. We used to live in Jackson. The way you were looking at that fence made me think you might need help."

Thank you, Father. "While I change the tire," he says, "you go and sit in the car with my wife, where it's cool."

I go to the car and she tells me they live in Pensacola. She opens a thermos jug and pours me a cupful of ice water. When he has changed the tire, he asks me to drive ahead so they can follow me to the first station.

. . . my cup runneth over . . . goodness and mercy . . . follow me. . . Thank you, Father.

### Nationwide Influence . . .

## Mississippians Head National Bodies

The elected trustees of three Southern Baptist agencies have named Mississippians as their chairmen. John Claypool, pastor of Northminster Church in Jackson, recently was elected chairman of the Christian Life Commission. Immediately following the Southern Baptist Convention in June in Atlanta, Brooks Wester, pastor of First Church, Hattiesburg, was elected chairman of the SBC Executive Committee. Bill Hardy, minister of education at First Church, Columbus, is in his third year as chairman of the Brotherhood Commission. This latter position is especially important in view of the fact that the commission

is without an executive director at the present time.

#### Executive Heads

In addition to these elected officials leading SBC agencies, several of those institutions have executive heads who are natives of Mississippi. The last three presidents of the Sunday School Board came from this state. They were T. L. Holcomb and James L. Sullivan of the past and Grady C. Cothen of the present. Paul Stevens, president of the Radio and Television Commission, is also a native of Mississippi; and two other agency or institution heads have been Mississippi pastors.

Bill Tanner, executive director of the Home Mission Board, was once pastor of First Church, Gulfport. In that pastorate he followed Landrum Leavell, now president of New Orleans Seminary.

And a discussion of Mississippians extending their influence on a nationwide basis calls for another reminder that Frank Pollard, pastor of First Church, Jackson, is doing just that on radio and television. He has been the Baptist Hour speaker for some time now. He has just begun a new broadcast ministry as the host of the new television program, "At Home with the Bible." This is a cooperative en-

deavor of the Radio and Television Commission and the Sunday School Board, and it looks good. The writer has seen two segments in preview screenings, and both were fine. It is scheduled to begin Oct. 8 on WAPT-TV Channel 16, Jackson, at 8 a.m.

#### Congratulations

Our hearty congratulations to chairmen Claypool, Wester, and Hardy in their positions of leadership

And our best wishes to Frank Pollard in his new broadcast endeavor.

May the cause of Christ be served to the greatest extent possible in each of these instances.

## Cothen Explains Fund Uses To Editors

By Linda Lawson

NASHVILLE — Sunday School Board President Grady C. Cothen outlined board distribution of funds to state conventions and the SBC Executive Committee and covered a wide range of issues in a 90-minute question-and-answer session with 22 Baptist state paper editors here.

The session with Cothen was part of a six-hour Sunday School Board update for the editors sponsored by the office of communications.

Last year the Sunday School Board contributed \$1.6 million from literature sales to the state conventions according to a formula prescribed by the Southern Baptist Convention, Cothen said. The money goes toward paying the salaries of persons who direct programs related to the Sunday School Board.

#### Provide Money

This practice goes back to the creation of the board in 1891 when the Convention instructed the new publishing house to provide money to states to promote their programs and products. "Anyone who believes the Sunday

School Board can exist long without state workers is whistling in the dark," Cothen said. "We need this mutuality of relationship."

In addition, he said the board contributed \$600,000 to the denomination's executive committee.

Responding to questions about the board's new program of providing funds to pay the salary of a religious education professor on each seminary campus, Cothen said the project relates to the board's need to educate Baptist leaders about services, programs, and products.

"We need to get to leaders while they're being trained," Cothen said. He added the board is placing on each seminary campus a curriculum laboratory with every piece of literature it produces.

He said all funds shared with states and other agencies represent purchased services and have been given at the instruction of the denomination.

"We must not violate the business and financial plan of the Southern Baptist Convention," Cothen said.

In other matters, he said surveys have shown that only a small percentage of the 35,000 Southern Baptist churches do not order Sunday School Board literature. While a broad spectrum of non-Baptist groups place orders, these total less than one percent.

#### Quality Literature

Cothen said the board is placing a priority on producing quality literature rather than speaking out against independent publishing efforts. "We

## Book Reviews

**BRAZILIAN OBSESSION** by William L. C. Richardson (Convention Press, \$1.45, 106 pp.) This is the adult study book for the 1978 Foreign Mission Graded Series, and is written by a missionary to Brazil. It is a study of contemporary efforts of dynamic Brazilian Baptists to confront non-evangelicals with the gospel and to equip church members to minister and witness in the name of Christ. Other books in the series are *To Touch the Skies*, for youth, by Bob Stanley; *Jungle Frontier*, older children, by Maxie Crawford Kirk; *A Surprise for Maria*, younger children, by Nora Stanley; and *On the Big River*, older preschool children, by Marjorie Jones McCullough. Books for youth and younger children are about evangelism in the Philippines. The other books are about Brazil.

**ANIMALS OF THE BIBLE** by Isaac Asimov, with pictures by Howard Berelson (Doubleday, \$6.59). Illustrated with imaginative drawings of animals, this book is for children, 8 to 12. The text gives information about animals — their use in Bible times and now, and their symbolic use in the Bible. Asimov, born in Russia, came to

America with his family at the age of three. He is on the faculty of Boston University School of Medicine and has written more than 160 books. Berelson's drawings for this book were influenced by the medieval tapestries and stained glass he has seen in northern France.

**STONE GABLES** by Brenda Knight Graham (Broadman, 167 pp., \$5.95)

This is a refreshingly wholesome and entertaining book about a real family of ten children who grew up in the mountains of north Georgia, in the forties and fifties. The father, an artist retired because of poor eyesight, taught all the children at home, rather than sending them to public school. The mother was assistant teacher, baker, tailor, and barber. Through all kinds of times, funny and sad, this family depended on God. Two of them became foreign missionaries. The writer, next to youngest of the ten, is the wife of a veterinarian and still lives in Georgia.

**JESUS AS THEY SAW HIM** by William Barclay (Wm. B. Eerdmans, paper, \$4.95, 429 pp.) It is often possible to learn much about a person from

the names and titles given him. Jesus was given many titles which people in New Testament days used to affirm and confess their faith in him, and which summarized what they believed him to be. He was called the Messiah, the Lamb, the Bread of Life, the Light of the World, the Alpha and Omega, the Firstborn of Creation, and the Amen. Barclay's analysis of these and other titles used to describe Jesus will help to enrich the reader's understanding of the person and work of Jesus. (Barclay died in 1978. For many years he was professor of divinity and Biblical criticism at Glasgow University in Scotland.)

**YOU'RE SOMEONE SPECIAL** by Bruce Narramore (Zondervan, \$6.95, 100 pp.) A psychologist is the author of this book on the importance of loving ourselves. Narramore says, "Scripture tells us that the believer is a created, redeemed being, of great value to God. . . . The church has too frequently ignored this side of the biblical view of man. But peace and happiness will elude us unless we recognize that we're someone special." Several of the 15 chapters are on the topics of self-love, self-acceptance, and self-esteem.

## Communications Act Remains Under Fire

WASHINGTON, D. C. (BP) — Two denominational executives charged in testimony before a congressional subcommittee that the proposed rewrite of the federal Communications Act of 1934 would damage the public interest.

Harry N. Hollis Jr., associate executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, and Everett C. Parker, director of the United Church of Christ's office of communication, called for a major overhaul of H. R. 1305, "The Communications Act of 1978."

U. S. Rep. Lionel Van Deerlin, D-Cal., chairman of the House Subcommittee on Communications, acknowledged that the embattled bill will have to be redrawn. He said that a new version will be introduced in the new Congress in January and that he would welcome additional testimony from the witnesses.

#### Attacked By Giants

The present bill has also been attacked by such corporate giants as American Telephone and Telegraph and Bell Telephone Co., as well as cable television interests.

Hollis said the current proposal would allow "the rape of the public interest" by catering chiefly to the economic interests of the television and radio industries. The bill would eliminate the so-called "public interest standard" of the present communications act which requires broadcasters to operate in "the public interest, convenience and necessity."

Generally, it would provide for a complete deregulation of the radio industry and substantial deregulation of television broadcasting. Under the bill's provisions, the present Federal Communications Commission would be replaced by a more limited Communications Regulatory Commission.

Hollis, who has helped engineer a nationwide, two-year "Help for Television Viewers" project for Southern Baptists, said his social concerns agency has encountered millions of Americans who are "anguished and angry about the fact that the television industry has so often ignored its trusteeship of the airwaves." Deregulating the industry, he said, would only serve to heighten the influences of a medium that is already too powerful.

#### Positive Suggestion

Van Deerlin challenged Hollis to come up with positive suggestions for the subcommittee rather than offering only negative observations. Hollis countered by saying that changing the rules just at the time when public interest groups are beginning to have some effect on broadcasters would undercut efforts to improve broadcasting.

Parker expressed "acute distress" at provisions of the proposed bill that would wipe out current fair employment practices rules of the FCC that require broadcasters and cable operators to hire, train and upgrade minorities and women.



### Not Too Old To Be Bold

She is 67, retired, but wanted to "do one more constructive thing" before she died. She wrote the Foreign Mission Board and made herself available. Less than two months later Virginia Oakley of Booneville, Miss., was on her way to Recife, Brazil. She is now teaching in the American School in that city, where about half of her students are children of missionaries. She writes that she will "never stop thanking God for letting me come."

Young or old, the doors of Christian service are open and call for bold going, bold praying, and bold giving. B. Copeland expressed it well when he said, "Life is now in session; are you present?"

—Guy Henderson, Consultant for Cooperative Program Promotion

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# A Place For Mission Activity? Sue Simpson Will Find It!

Thursday, October 5, 1978

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5



Sue McAllister, minister to youth, and Sue Simpson, director of mission activities, peek over the curtain at the puppeteers at the fair in Tupelo. Puppeteers are Susan Harris and Brad Simpson, both high school sophomores, and Linda Britt of the Harrisburg church staff. Others involved in puppeteering were Allan Lummus and Cliff Nichols.

By Tim Nicholas

A former missionary has joined the staff of a Mississippi church to point members the way into missions involvement.

Sue Simpson, former Southern Baptist missionary to Ecuador has been elected to the staff of Harrisburg Baptist Church in Tupelo as Coordinator of Mission Activities.

The purpose, according to pastor Robert Hamblin, who is president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, is to "seek places of service, prepare people for service, and coordinate participation in these activities."

Hamblin reports that Mrs. Simpson will attempt to involve members in home, foreign, and local mission projects.

She began her work on the church staff in July, and she is the wife of Sammy Simpson, both of whom resigned as a Southern Baptist missionary five years ago to work with Agricultural Missions Foundation which promotes financial aid for missionaries in agricultural work.

She says she hopes to have at least one mission project in the church each month. Members have already become involved in the building of a church in Chester, W. Va., and in an evangelistic effort in Wheeling.

"We also plan to use this office to

promote missions through education and inspiration in the church," says Mrs. Simpson.

"We have in mind producing mission information to be used in Sunday School and Church Training. We have missions banquets and a missions fair planned, plus local missions projects," says Mrs. Simpson.

She is already teaching a Spanish class within the church in preparation for trips to any of the many countries which have Spanish as the national language. She has her master's degree in both English and Spanish from Mississippi State and taught both there for five years before entering mission work.

She plans to take a not-for-profit tour group to such countries as Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru for investigation of missions and the local culture.

"There are so many opportunities facing us," she says. She outlines the trips that are in the planning stages: dental trip to Antigua or Honduras, a construction trip to Spain, young people to Ecuador with puppets and music, the Rio Grande Valley for young people with puppets, Backyard Bible Clubs, and music. Recently the church has made a mission trip to Honduras working with a Baptist independent missionary.

Locally, the church is planning Backyard Bible Clubs and the possibil-

ity of getting involved in some children's rehabilitation work.

After the people get back from their trips, their work isn't over, according to Mrs. Simpson. They then need to tell others about what they did — with slide presentations and talks. "We hope to become a source of personnel for missions information for people in the area," says Mrs. Simpson.

Working through a committee composed of the Woman's Missionary Union and Brotherhood directors and others, Mrs. Simpson will remain on the lookout for new ways church members can serve in missions.

The church Brotherhood recently sponsored a booth at the Mississippi-Alabama Fair and Dairy Show in Tupelo. The booth was manned during the fair with members telling of the ministry of Harrisburg church and presenting puppet shows, music, and inspiration.

At the start of the fair, 30 Harrisburg members turned out to hold a reception for fair personnel. Only a few of the fair employees visited the booth. Some said others wanted to come, but were afraid that they would be evangelized.

One man was openly admiring of the church's attempts at friendship. "I've been with the fair 22 years and never got anything free before," he told Mrs. Simpson.

Sue Simpson is one of the pioneers in church staffing. Few, if any others in Southern Baptist churches hold a similar position. But it's a job that won't be lacking in work.

"Now they (church members) think of me as the source person," says Mrs. Simpson. "One nurse told me 'I want to use my skills, but you find me the place to go.'"

There's a place and Sue Simpson will find it.

## Clarke Invites Students To 'College For Day'

Clarke College Director of Admissions Allen B. Parnell (left) is assisted by Freshmen Judi Brunson of Montgomery, Ala., and Carey Bass of Prentiss in preparing mail-out invitations to prospective students, pastors, and other interested persons inviting them to the fall "College For A Day" activities.

The date for this special day is Oct. 14. It is planned to acquaint high school juniors and seniors with what Clarke has to offer them.



## Senior Adults Get Many Invitations To Sing

The Senior Adult Choir of First Church, Pascagoula, is a dynamic part of the music ministry of First Church, Pascagoula, according to Marc Beaver, music minister. The group began singing when they were asked to premier the senior adult musical, "Count On Us" in Mississippi. They performed the musical at Gulfshore Assembly on Aug. 18 for Senior Adult week.

Since that time numerous invitations have been sent to them to sing at other churches. They have performed at First Church, Pascagoula; First Church, New Orleans; and at Jackson County Senior Citizens May Day program. They are scheduled to sing at First Baptist Church, Pensacola,

Fla., and Caswell Springs United Methodist Church, Caswell Springs, Ms.

"Count On Us," the first musical written for senior adults, includes songs pertinent to the needs of senior adults. Titles include: "I Know What I Like," "You Can Count On Senior Citizens," "It's Not The Bible," "The Faithful Four," "The Old Church," "The Stream Of Memory," and "The Treasurers."

Soloists include Mac Bowman, Vivian Frazier, Gertrude Lee, Bertha Davis, Ora Nelson, Maude Thornton, Claude Bolding, and Hilda Graves, with Hilda Bowman as narrator. Mark McMurray is pastor.

## Youths Plant 'Seeds Of Faith' In Montana

By Lynn Watkins  
Clarion Ledger Staff Writer

Robin Brown says she learned an important lesson this summer — "that when you give, you learn in return."

Miss Brown, aged 16, and 28 others from Northeast Jackson's Woodland Hills Baptist Church joined in a summer mission trip to a small church in Laurel, Mont.

Seventeen-year-old Mark Wade said, "Just about every mile you go in Jackson, there's a church for one out of every three people. There wasn't anything up there and those people were hungry for God's word." In Laurel, population about 7,000, there are only three churches, he added, and most of the people are Lutheran or Catholic.

For the past three years, Woodland Hills Church has helped sponsor Laurel's Calvary Baptist Church, which didn't even have a pastor until eight months ago. Last year the Jackson youths began planning a mission trip to Laurel to set up a vacation Bible school and nightly revival services.

"We had three things in mind before we went up there," said Ann Scirrat, 18. "We wanted to share God's word with them, we wanted to help them and help ourselves by giving them ourselves, and we wanted to help our church and see it grow."

The group spent three days teaching a Bible school for the Laurel youngsters that included puppet shows, recreation, refreshments, arts and crafts, Bible study and music.

Miss Brown, who worked with some of the pre-schoolers, said, "They listen so good and they asked so many questions. One day a little girl asked me who Jesus was and who was God — all these deep questions from such a little child. I'm not a preacher," she continued, but most teenagers couldn't give to a church what we did."

Three days of Bible school made lasting impressions on the Jackson youths.

"You know how you can see a group of children, and there's one you just pick and say to yourself, 'That's the one I'm going to look after,'" Miss Brown asked. "Well, Jennifer had big blue eyes and long blond hair. She was just beautiful. But she was a big brat. She didn't like boys and she didn't want to be in the picture we took with everybody else. She would be really cool when I tried to kiss her cheek, things like that."

At one point, Jennifer interrupted while Miss Brown was reading the group a story. "I lost my temper and told her to sit down until I finished," she remembers. "Then when I finished the story, Jennifer had tears in her eyes. She said, 'Nobody likes me.' She said her mother had told her not to be nice to everybody." Miss Brown said, "but when I finished talking to her, she said, 'I'll be good for God.' And she was really a changed child from then on. She was really sweet."

For Mark Wade, the strongest memory is of little Ramone, the rough, tough 8-year-old who was rebellious because his parents planned to move to California. "He'd run off. He didn't want to cooperate in anything," Wade said. "Finally Tom (activities director, Tom Prather) asked him why he even brought his Bible. He said he wanted to learn and the day we left, he was more upset than anybody."

"The theme of the trip was to plant the seeds of faith," Wade added. "Well, we planted the seeds, and it may be 20 years before we see the results, but we'll see them."

## Bi-Vocational Pastor Leads A Dual Life

By Tim Nicholas

Dale Holloway leads a dual life. During the week he's state superintendent of elementary education for the Mississippi Department of Education.

But on the weekends he has another fulltime job. He's pastor of Day Star Baptist Mission in Florence.

Holloway is what is called a bi-vocational pastor. And he has approximately 9,500 counterparts all over the Southern Baptist Convention. All are men who work full time at a secular job in addition to serving as pastor of a Baptist church.

These churches are usually churches which could not support a pastor full time. Some are in early stages of growth. Others are in situations which indicate that they would never have a full time pastor.

Holloway's 25 years in ministry — all but two years as a bi-vocational pastor, were outlined during talks he gave during a conference designed especially for the bi-vocational pastor at Tupelo and at Laurel in September. Both conferences were sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Cooperative Missions Department and coordinated by Hollis Bryant of the department staff.

"When my fellow employees go down the elevator after a hard week saying, 'Thank the Lord it's Friday,' for me it's just staring," said Holloway.

Holloway said that the life is hard on a family. And a small church situation gets unintentional insults. Holloway quoted people who have told him, "We'd love to come down to the mission ... but we have children." Holloway said he would think, "I have children.

What are you telling me?"

He told his fellow pastors that he had had the same wrestling with the ego that they had likely had, with the same feelings of inadequacy.

"But when I feel inadequate, I say, 'Dale, when have you ever failed to go through a door the Lord has opened for you?'"

Holloway said he's called of God and his calling is the same as any other minister's call.

On the other side of the coin is great joy, said Holloway. "We have opportunities to grow. I feel a keen brotherhood with my church members," he said.

"And I have a clear focus on every person in my congregation. I feel that if I can influence the lives of 12 men I have made a significant contribution," said Holloway, who said that Jesus only tried to influence 12.

Holloway quoted Jasper Martin who wrote, "God had not called us to be successful, but to be faithful."

J. T. Burdine of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board staff was on hand to present a challenge to the pastors at the Tupelo meeting. He said that Lyle Schaller estimates that by 1985, half of the Protestant pastors in the United States will be bi-vocational. He quoted the Sunday School Board as saying the same statistics are projected for the Southern Baptist Convention.

Burdine, who works almost full time with bi-vocational pastors, told of the HMB's interest in this particular type of ministry and that the HMB wants to hear from the bi-vocational men as to their special needs and how the HMB can help.

After all, said Burdine, "the Apostle Paul was a tentmaker."



## Okahola Mission To Become Church

Okahola Mission was begun June 25, 1978. The first meeting was on Sunday afternoon on the lawn of Mrs. Carl Walker's home. Sunday School and morning worship services were begun on September 10. Attendance has been 30-49 and increasing weekly. Attendance Sept. 24 was 60. Offerings have been from \$200 to \$400 weekly. The Sept. 24 offering was \$941.

J. F. (Jim) Stagg has accepted the call to be pastor at this new work. He is minister of education of First Church, Purvis.

A three-acre building site has been given by Mrs. Carl Walker. Pictured are those who participated in a work day to clean up the site and enjoy Baptist fellowship under the trees.

Plans are in the making for a mobile chapel before winter. A revival will be held Oct. 8-13 ... and from there ... a full-time Southern Baptist Church with the world as its mission to share Jesus Christ with as many as possible.

First Church, Purvis, Thomas Hall, pastor, is the sponsoring church.



## Trace Ridge Members Build Church

The first of a three-phase building program has been in rapid progress since early July at Trace Ridge Church, Ridgeland. Thanksgiving weekend is the tentative date set for a dedication ceremony. Church members building the structure include electricians, plumbers, general construction supervisors, and laborers. Plans were prepared in consultation with Dennis Conniff, Church Architecture Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

A group of Hinds-Madison men who helped to build a church in California have also assisted with the Trace Ridge building.

The building, on 9.8 acres on Lake Harbor Drive, will contain an auditorium to seat 418, fellowship hall, kitchen, library, sound and communications room, pastor's study, and 12 classrooms.

Women of the church have been preparing hot meals for after-five and weekend workers. Young people are sanding and painting playground equipment.

Trace Ridge has grown from 52 to 134 since organization Feb. 19, 1978. Attendance averages 125 per Sunday. Fred Tarpley, director of Hinds-Madison Association, is interim pastor.



## RAs Ride Bikes 50 Miles For Missions

Parks Marler Pioneer Royal Ambassadors of Broadmoor Church, Jackson, raised \$309.00 in a recent bike-a-thon. They have sent \$154.50 to the Baptist Children's Village in Jackson and \$154.50 to Parks Marler for use in his mission work in Guam. Four young men rode bicycles for 50 miles, beginning at Broadmoor Church, going to County Line Road, to the Natchez Trace, around the Barnett Reservoir, on to Lakeland Drive, and back to Broadmoor. Left to right, they are Rubin Swindoll, John Morgan, David Wells, and Kevin Jones.



## Fall Bazaar Raises \$2,200

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center held their "Fabulous Fall Bazaar" on September 20. The bazaar, which filled the main lobby of the old hospital building, offered a large assortment of homemade jams, jellies and baked goods; arts and crafts; paintings; clothing; white elephants; and house plants. Over \$2,200 was raised from the one-day event which is the Auxiliary's main fund raising event for the year. The money will go toward the purchase of equipment for the hospital's Pediatric Intensive Care Unit. Bazaar Chairman was Mrs. Pearl Wymer. Mrs. Katherine Feldman is hospital hostess, and coordinator of all volunteer work.



## British Baptists Will Speak At Carey's "Show And Tell"

A special feature of the "Show and Tell" volunteer missions emphasis at William Carey College on Oct. 12 will be the presence of two British Baptists.

Mr. and Mrs. John Robertson of Northampton, England, will share their experiences as Christians who were reared in the Carey Baptist Church of Moulton, England, where William Carey was pastor at the time of his call to foreign mission service in the late 18th century.

John Robertson is the "volunteer" minister of education of the small church which still has Carey's pulpit and his cobbler's shop. The

Robertsons will be on their first visit to the United States and will be spending a few days in Hattiesburg.

"The Robertsons are especially interested in seeing William Carey College since it is named for the founder of the modern mission movement who pastored their church," commented Marjorie Rowden, vice president for college relations and a member of the "Show and Tell" volunteer missions event scheduled for Oct. 12.

Mrs. Rowden continued, "We are expecting two distinct groups of South Mississippi church folk on Oct. 12: those who have already participated in a Bold Mission Thrust volunteer mis-

sion project and those who have not, but want to find out how to begin."

According to Richard Davis, chairman of the Volunteer Mission: Show and Tell program, "The format for the 6-9 p.m. meeting in the Kresge Hall in the new business building (across from the president's home) will be informal.

"Earl Kelly, executive secretary for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board will speak. But the remainder of the time will be spent in sharing, asking questions, panel discussions, mission music, and general inspiration centered around volunteer mission challenges. Light snack food will be served."

## Two 'Bars' Make A Cross

GRENADA (BP) — Tony Ambrose is serving nine years for manslaughter. It happened in a barroom brawl.

Today that same place — Grenada's Soursop Bar and Restaurant owned by Ambrose — is a church.

"That was the scene where a man lost his life," related Ambrose, "and now we want it to be a place where others might find life."

An inmate at the Richmond Hill Prison in Grenada, Ambrose became a Christian through the weekly Bible study ministry led by Southern Baptist Missionary Manget Herrin.

Following his request for membership in St. George's Baptist Church, the inmate and his wife Iola approached Herrin. The couple felt God wanted them to give their business place in the town of Victoria to Grenada Baptists.

The large two-story structure is on the main road in the west coast town.

Services are conducted by a police corporal who is a Grenada Baptist. The corporal was transferred to Victoria one week after the building donation was made.

## Memphis Hospital Helps Investigate Mystery Disease

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP) — Baptist Memorial Hospital is cooperating with health officials to determine what caused seven cases of Legionnaires' Disease in Memphis, according to Charles Baker, hospital vice president.

Officials of the Memphis and Shelby County Health Departments and the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, are using Baptist Hospital laboratories to diagnose the disease.

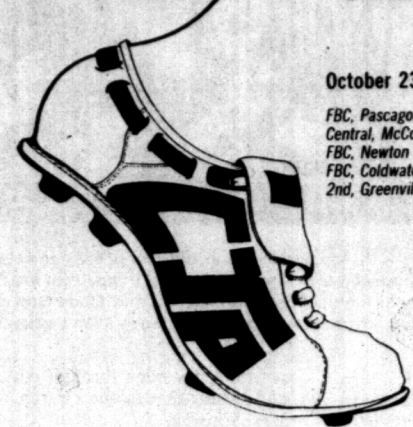
The only death connected with the mysterious disease was the husband of a Baptist Hospital employee. "We are waiting for the autopsy report to determine the actual cause of death," Baker said, adding that Legionnaires' Disease was just one of several medical problems he had.

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Happiness is a state of mind. Lincoln once said: "We are as happy as we make up our minds to be."

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## GET OFF ON THE RIGHT FOOT



**New Church Training Director - Pastor Conferences**

October 23

FBC, Pascagoula  
Central, McComb  
FBC, Newton  
FBC, Coldwater  
2nd, Greenville

October 24

FBC, Pearl  
FBC, West Point  
FBC, Tupelo  
Parkway, Kosciusko  
FBC, Columbia

7:00 PM

## High Schoolers Are Invited To Fall Evangelism Conference

FANTASTIC FALL, a youth evangelism conference, will be held at First Church, Columbus, December 8 and 9.

"The purpose of FANTASTIC FALL is to give the high school young people in Mississippi a vision for discipleship

and witnessing," states Rich Malone, minister of youth at First, Amory.

Program personalities will be Joe McKeever, pastor of First Church, Columbus; Barry St. Clair, director of Reach Out Ministries, Atlanta, Georgia; Ron Davis, Christian musician

and disciple-maker from Houston, Tex.; and the "Imperials," recording artists.

FANTASTIC FALL is for high school, 9th graders through 12th graders, and the cost will be \$10 plus lodging, food, and travel.

Churches will be receiving applications around Oct. 1. For more information, contact Rich Malone at 256-7131. First Baptist Church, Amory; Bob Waldrop at 328-2924, Fairview Church, Columbus; Sue McAllister at 842-6917, Harrisburg Church, Tupelo; or Bryan Harris at 328-3915, First Church, Columbus.

## MC Offers Bible By Cablevision

The Division of Continuing Education of Mississippi College announces that through special arrangement with Capitol Cablevision, Introduction to the Bible, taught by Phil McCarty, will be offered on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8 to 8:30.

The course will begin Oct. 31 and may be taken for audit or for three hours of academic credit. For further information, call Continuing Education, 924-5131, Ext. 301.

## Pleasant Home To Celebrate

### 75th Year

Pleasant Home Church, Laurel, will celebrate its 75th anniversary Oct. 15, with an old-fashioned dinner on the ground.

The church was organized August 27, 1903, in the small Jones County community of Matthews.

The celebration will begin Saturday, Oct. 14, in the church fellowship hall with a banquet honoring the older members.

Services will begin Sunday at 11 a.m. with A. H. Weger, former pastor, bringing the message. Then dinner will be served.

The afternoon service will begin at 1:30 with former pastor, E. C. Moss, speaking. Also during the afternoon the church history will be presented and former pastors and music directors will be recognized.

Martin Hayden is the pastor.

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## Calvary, Pascagoula, Choir Will Present 'Festival Of Praise'

The Sanctuary Choir of Pascagoula's Calvary Church will present the musical, "FESTIVAL OF PRAISE" by Thurlow Spurr, Sunday, Oct. 8, at 7 p.m.

Calvary's musical groups participating in the program are the Ladies' Trio, Double Quartette, Duets, and the Sanctuary Choir. Featured soloists will be Kathy Colvin, Dora

Nell Odom, Teresa Heidelberg, James Miller, and Buddy Mathis.

Mrs. Byron Mathis is director of the Sanctuary Choir and the musical. James Miller, assistant pastor, will serve as narrator; Buddy Mathis will accompany the choir on the trumpet. Accompanists for the program will be Annette Graham, pianist, and Vickie Hollingsworth, organist.

Byron Mathis is pastor.

## Baptist Team Leaves Tourney, Refusing To Play On Sunday

OKLAHOMA CITY (RNS) — They traveled 1,300 miles to take part in the national Men's National Slow Pitch Softball Tournament, then dropped out of the competition because the schedule required them to play on Sunday.

That's the story of the players representing Friendship Baptist Church of Abbeville, S.C.

Playing "on the Lord's Day doesn't set well with us," said Arnold Thomasson, the team's coach. "It's just a shame that a tournament is played on Sunday. It's against our principles."

A softball association aide regretted Friendship Baptist's withdrawal, adding: "I can certainly understand why they would do this, but I'm a Christian and I don't think a church can sin by having its members play softball on Sunday for the good of their church."

Friendship's team had lost its first game but the tournament is based on a two-losses-and-out policy. Forfeiting the Sunday game represented the second loss and a long ride back to South Carolina.

## Staff Changes

Paul Blanchard has resigned as pastor of Blue Lake Church, Lambert, to become pastor of Bethesda Church, Crawford. He has also been serving as part-time director of missions for the Quitman County Association.



Blanchard

Jimmy Moore has been called as minister of youth of the Cottonwood Heights Church, Memphis, Tn. Mrs. Moore, formerly Jackie Fortenberry, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Fortenberry of Magnolia, Mississippi.

Artis Brewer is interim pastor of Eastview Church, Laurel. He accepted the call on August 9. Rickey McPhearson has been serving Eastview as minister of music and youth since April 19.

Dennis McNetter has resigned as minister of music at Bay Vista Church, Gulf Coast, to accept a similar position at First Church, Ferriday, La.

Pat McNair has taken six months leave of absence from the pastorate of Gulfport Heights, for medical reasons. He is an outpatient at the VA hospital in Jackson.

Richard Edwards is the new pastor of Pass Road Church, Gulf Coast. He and his wife, Debbie Jo, have one son, Richard, Jr., 18 months. Edwards moved to Pass Road from Oak Grove Church near Mt. Olive.

Hank Guest has resigned from the staff of First, Wiggins and has accepted a position with Northminster Church, Jackson.

## Magazine To Premiere For Parents Of Teenagers

NASHVILLE — A quarterly magazine for parents of 12 to 17-year-old youth, *Living with Teenagers*, will begin publication in October by the Sunday School Board's family ministry department.

*Living with Teenagers* is the third magazine in a series produced exclusively for parents. The existing publications are *Living with Preschoolers* and *Living with Children*.

Articles in the first issue include features on family communication, the first of a five-part series on teen-age pregnancy, teaching teens responsibility and "What to Do if Your Kid Cuts Sunday School."

Lee Sizemore, editor, said an advisory group of ten parents was enlisted to recommend subjects they felt should make up the magazine's contents.

To order *Living with Teenagers*, write to Materials Services Department, 127 Ninth Avenue, North, Nashville, TN 37234.

## Mission Hill Will Celebrate Centennial On Sunday, Oct. 15

Mission Hill Church, Lincoln County, will celebrate its centennial on Oct. 15. The church was organized in 1878.

E. Leonard Smith, pastor of Union Church, will be guest speaker. W. E. Derrick is the pastor.

Centennial features will include a weekend revival. Services will be held

Friday night and Saturday night, Oct. 13 and 14.

Sunday, Oct. 15, there will be morning and afternoon services and dinner on the ground. David Derrick will read the church history at the afternoon service. Fair River Choir, Roland and Irma Jean Ross, and others, will present special music.

## Stress can squeeze years off your life if you don't know how to handle it.



The problem with stress is not how to get rid of it. It's a part of life. And it's not even all bad. The real problem with stress is how to recognize it and control it. So it doesn't control you.

Your body reacts to stressful situations with its nerves, glands and hormones. And because these systems function throughout the body, what affects them can affect other parts of your body that may be vulnerable at the time.

That's why stress is a factor in many people's heart attacks, hypertension, ulcers, asthma, possibly even cancers, and probably many other ailments. That's also why, in these times of many stresses, it's a major factor in increasingly costly health care.

You can recognize stress by heeding the warnings of your body and emotions. Frustration. Anger. Hostilities that build up. Heavy pressures of responsibility time demands and conflict. Headaches, insomnia, muscle tension.

The key to handling stress is learning. Learning to air your feelings in constructive ways, to train your body to relax, to repair a lifestyle before you're faced with expensive medical repairs. You have to learn what your stresses are and the best ways for you to deal with them.

But they must be dealt with. Because the longer you remain in the grip of stress, the more crushing—and costly—its effects.

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## In Names The News

Sarah Willey Young completed 18 years of perfect Sunday School attendance on Sunday, Sept. 24.



Young

She is church pianist and youth Sunday School teacher at New Hope Church (Leake) where her husband, Jimmy Young, is pastor.

Mrs. Max E. Pettit is art director at the Baptist Spanish Publishing House in El Paso, Tx. She is the former Dorothy Gilbert, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Gilbert of Meridian. From 1950 until 1957 the native Mississippian and her first husband, Marlin Hicks, were missionaries to Chile. Hicks died of cancer in September 1957. Mrs. Pettit's husband is pastor of the Kemp Street Church in El Paso. He is a former missionary to Taiwan.

James Selater, Mississippi College faculty, clarinetist, performed at the Mississippi Museum of Art in Jackson for the opening of the Daum glass exhibit on Sept. 14. He also participated in a Schubert recital at St. Andrews Cathedral in Jackson on Sept. 20.

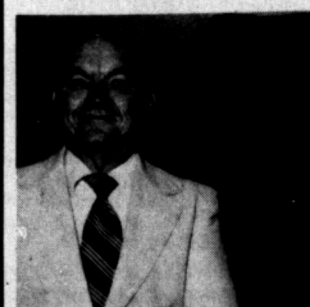


Gerald Claxton, Mississippi College faculty, was organist for the state convention of Presbyterian Women of the Church on Sept. 6.

Deacon ordination services were held at First Church, Kosciusko, Sept. 17, for Mike Martin, William Roby, Richard Simpson and Robert Simpson (pictured, left to right).

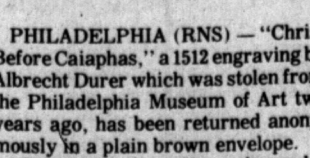
W. Eugene Gillis, Jr., was ordained to the Gospel ministry Sept. 17 at New Palestine Church, Picayune. He is a graduate of Blue Mountain College and received the Master of Divinity degree from New Orleans Seminary in May of this year. He has served as minister of music and youth at New Palestine for three years and now is associate pastor. Gillis is the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Gillis, Sr. of Columbus. One of his three brothers, Robert Gillis, is pastor of Pleasant Grove Church (Chickasaw). Eugene Gillis, his wife Myra, and two children, Alyson, and Jonathan, live in Picayune.

Archie T. Barron, father of Thomas O. Barron, missionary to Indonesia, died Sept. 11 in Richton, Miss. Missionary Barron was born in Forest, La., and grew up in Richton. He may be addressed at Box 46, Bukittinggi, West Sumatra, Indonesia. His wife is the former Hazel Clark of Richton.



Peter Shaheen, a member of the Pearlhaven Church in Brookhaven, is available for supply preaching. He has recently moved to the Brookhaven area from Jackson. He may be reached by phone at 833-7032 or 833-2515.

Brenda Munn of Pontotoc has been selected as assistant dean of admissions at Mississippi College. A 1977 graduate of the school, she has served as an admissions counselor. In her new position she will assist with the administration of an expanded recruitment program by Mississippi College in the high schools and junior colleges of the state.



Munn

Mike Pennock, center, was ordained to the ministry Sunday night, Sept. 17, at Temple Church, Jackson. Barney Walker, right, brought the message. Wayne Crenshaw, left, is the pastor. Pennock has been called as pastor of Anding Church, Yazoo Association.

Darrell W. Wood, director of communications for the Southern Baptist Education Commission in Nashville, Tenn., became director of communications at Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky., Oct. 1. He succeeds J. Michael Dudit, who has been named director of public relations at the seminary.

Buster Pray (Hubert Quin Pray, Jr.) has resigned as Director of Media Services for First Church, Jackson, in order to enter New Orleans Seminary's School of Church Music. Also he has accepted a call as minister of music for First Church, Kenna, La. His wife Martha is music and education secretary at First Church, Metairie, La. Pray is the son of Mrs. Hubert Quin Pray, Sr. of Jackson.



Daniel E. Sparks of Amory has accepted a call from First Church, Hamilton, Mont., to serve as minister of music and youth. Sparks attended Mississippi College and has done extensive part-time and interim work in music and youth ministries in the state, including six years at Meadowood Church in Amory. He is the son of Eugene Sparks, pastor of Splunge Church, Monroe County. Mrs. Sparks, the former Virginia Myatt of Amory, has accepted a call from Bitterroot Christian Academy, sponsored by the church, to serve as a teacher. She is a graduate of Blue Mountain College. The Sparks and their children, Daniel, Rebecca, and Thaddeus, have moved to their new field of service.

Linda Pinion Madden has been selected as an Outstanding Young Woman of America for 1978 in recognition of personal and professional accomplishments and will be listed in the annual volume. A fourth grade teacher in the New Albany City Schools, she is married to Frank L. Madden, III who was selected as an Outstanding Young Man of America in 1976. They are members of Hillcrest Church, New Albany, where he is a deacon, and they have three children. Mrs. Madden is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Pinion, Sr. of Lambert.



Madden



Pennock

## New Constitution Would Guarantee Religious Liberty For Spain

MADRID, SPAIN (BP) — The new Spanish constitution, now before Spain's Congress of Deputies, carries guarantees of religious liberty, according to European Baptist Press Service.

Article 15, recently approved by the Congress, contains these paragraphs: 1. Religious liberty and individual and collective worship is guaranteed as well as the liberty to profess any belief or ideology. This is limited in its outward manifestations only by the need for public order protected by the law.

2. No person can be required to declare his religion, belief or ideology. 3. There will be no state religion. Public authorities, in considering the religious beliefs of Spanish society, will maintain cooperative relations with the Catholic Church and the other confessions.

The constitution must be approved by the Spanish Senate, then by a national referendum, before being proclaimed into law by King Carlos.

## Upon This Rock



Arlington Heights Church, Pascagoula, under the leadership of Pastor Joey Hancock, recently pledged over \$150,000 in a Church Building Fund Campaign directed by the state Stewardship Department staff.

The Arlington Heights Church was heavily damaged by an explosion and fire early in the summer. The congregation has been meeting in a school for services. The church has 525 resident members and total income for 1977 was \$108,933. An educational wing was completely destroyed and the auditorium heavily damaged. The church was planning to construct an addition to the building before the fire.

On Sunday, October 1, the congregation was able to return to the renovated auditorium for the first worship service.

Jim Austin is minister of education. Jack Lee served as general chairman and Bob Storie was canvass director.

## Revival Dates

First Church, Yazoo City: FALL REVIVAL; Oct. 8-11; services on Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, October 9-11, at 7 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; early morning weekday services followed by coffee, hot chocolate and doughnuts in Fellowship Hall; Gene Miller Williams of Bedford, Texas, President of the Gene Williams Evangelistic Association, preaching; Mrs. Sandee Rambo, daughter of the evangelist, soloist; THE CONCERN SINGERS, a team of 15 young men and women, ministering through songs, seminars, testimonies, and visitation; James F. Yates, pastor.

## Americans United Urge End To Vatican Envoy

WASHINGTON, D. C. — President Jimmy Carter has been urged to end the practice of sending a presidential envoy to the Vatican by Andrew Leigh Gunn, executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

Gunn's letter to President Carter followed an announcement by Vice President Walter Mondale that the personal representative to the Vatican, David M. Walters, had resigned. The announcement was not made until two weeks after Walters' resignation.

The Americans United leader called on the President to ignore the reported request by New York Governor Hugh Carey and U. S. Representative Robert Giarmo (D-CT) asking that the presidential envoy be upgraded to full ambassador.

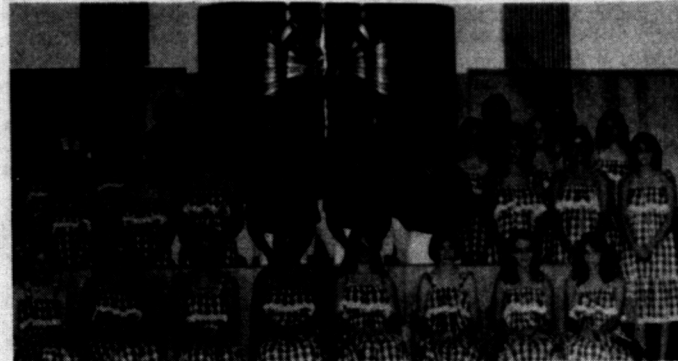
In his letter Gunn said, "Any regular United States government representation at the Vatican, whether by a Senate-approved full ambassador or a semi-official presidential envoy, is objectionable. It would single out one religious faith for special preference and discriminate against all others. It would constitute a de facto entanglement of religion and government, in violation of the spirit if not the actual letter of the Constitution. It would also contribute to the erosion of interfaith good will in our country."

## Just For The Record

New Hope Church (Leake) will hold annual homecoming Sunday, Oct. 15. The events of that day will include Sunday School (10 a.m.); worship service (11 a.m.); dinner-on-the-ground (noon); and gospel singing featuring Johnny Welborn, the Singing Policeman, and the New Life Singers (1:30 p.m.). Guests will be recognized at intermission of the gospel singing. James H. (Jimmy) Young, Jr. is pastor.

Liverpool Church (Yazoo County) will celebrate its 105th year with homecoming. The morning service will be at 11 followed by a covered basket dinner on the grounds and an afternoon service at 1:15, on Oct. 8.

A former pastor, Keith Stephens, now of Delta City Church, will bring the messages. Special music will be presented at both services.



THE "YOUNG BELIEVERS" OF FIRST CHURCH, VARDAMAN (Calhoun Association) presented the youth musical, "Make It Clear," during August. As they visited churches in south Mississippi and their home county, many decisions were made as the choir shared Jesus Christ through music and testimony. The group is made up of 41 young people, six not pictured. Julia Hamilton is music director. Lowell Johnson is pastor.

Clear Branch Church, Rankin County, will have annual homecoming on Sunday, Oct. 8. Guy Gray will preach at the morning service and Kenny Goff will be featured in the afternoon song service. Dinner will be served on the grounds. Roger Lee is pastor.

Siloam Church, Clay County, will have homecoming on Oct. 8. Joe Senter of Warner Robins, Ga., a former pastor at Siloam, will be guest speaker. A covered dish dinner will be served. Walter Frederick is pastor.

Mt. Vernon Church, Leflore Association, Hwy 8, will have homecoming Oct. 8. Billy Bob Guest will preach; music is to be by the Gospel Aires from Clarksdale. L. E. Moon is pastor.

Wiggins Church, Leake County, will have Harvest Day on Oct. 15. The program will consist of regular services for the morning, with lunch served at the church. The Gospel Echoes of Pearl will present special

music during the afternoon service that begins at 1:30. Carlton Jones is pastor.

Projects this year for ministry of the Mississippi College Baptist Student Union on campus include spiritual growth groups, "family" groups, socials, and coffeehouses.

Off-campus work will offer opportunities for students to be involved in visiting nursing homes, the Crippled Children's Hospital, and Jackson Hinds County Youth Court and Detention Center.

Other avenues of service available through the BSU are working with the Clinton Christian Community Corporation or Gateway Rescue Mission, tutoring at the Baptist Children's Village, participating in action teams which visit churches in Mississippi, and learning how to present puppet shows and dramatic interpretations.

Bradley Pope is the BSU Director at Mississippi College; his graduate assistants are Randy Turner and Anne Jones. Melanie Taylor of Grenada is president of the BSU executive steering committee.

WE INVITE YOU TO ATTEND  
"COLLEGE FOR A DAY"  
SATURDAY OCTOBER 14, 1978  
CLARKE COLLEGE  
Newton, Mississippi PHONE: 683-2061

## THE VILLAGE VIEW

FROM Baptist Children's Village  
P. O. Box 11308 Jackson, MS 39213



Village children assemble for "dinner on the ground" after special Sunday services on the Jackson campus.

Sunday, September 24 was a special Sunday for children and staff on our Jackson campus. For the first time in many years, our Jackson campus "family" worshipped together in Powell Chapel on the campus and enjoyed the old-fashioned fellowship of "dinner on the ground", following the service. The food included chicken and dumplings; chicken and dressing; fried chicken; baked chicken; barbecued chicken; all the "fixings" followed with chocolate pie and banana pudding! Good food, good friends and near-perfect weather conditions, combined to make this special Sunday a memorable occasion. Children and adults alike have exclaimed, "Let's do it again soon!"

All of the residents of the Village's Jackson campus attend regular, Sunday services, morning and evening at one of our three host-churches in Jackson, either First Baptist, Calvary Baptist or Parkway Baptist, and virtually every campus admission rapidly becomes a member of

one of those fine churches. The Children's Village believes its wards should be "injected into the public community" by membership in and attendance upon services of worship in community churches. Nevertheless, special needs of our special children commend occasional group worship on the campus to our staff leadership, including a mid-week service every Tuesday evening. Under the leadership of Annette Hitt, our Director of Religious Education, the special morning services of Sunday, September 24 may have introduced a profitable new dimension to our vigorous program of spiritual emphasis. Rev. Randy Turner, BSU Assistant at Mississippi College, brought the message of the morning. Don Dent, Assistant to Mrs.

Hitt in the Village's Christian Education Department led the music, with special music being provided by "The Villagers" from our Department of Music and Miss Ann Jones, soloist, who is also a BSU Assistant at Mississippi College.

Luncheon was served in the spacious, tree-shaded campus area, atop the Village's highest hill in the center of the Jackson campus adjacent to Powell Chapel. After the luncheon, the entire campus population reassembled in the Chapel for congregational singing and a mini-concert by "The Teen Choir," another choral group from the Village's Department of Music.

Visitors to The Village's Farrow Manor Campus in Tate County are invited to ask permission to see our cattle, our hogs and our chickens. In addition to helping provide expensive food

needs at all Village locations, these modest projects represent the beginnings of our projected "country-living" work and therapy projects for Village children who live on that beautiful campus.

"Christmas Sparkles at the Village", our popular annual concert and Christmas music show, will be presented for the 14th consecutive year on the second weekend in December. Church groups and interested individuals are invited to mark the dates of December 7, 8 and 9 for this happy event, which, as usual, will be staged in Hester Activities Building on the Jackson campus. By this advance alert, we invite particular attention to the Thursday evening performance of December 7th, a third performance being added this year especially for very young children, handicapped persons and Village friends in golden age groups. The crowds in attendance at the Friday and Saturday evening performances have thrilled our children for years, but they have severely taxed our facilities. It is believed that many friends in one of the groups for whom we expressly designed the Thursday, December 7 presentation do not attend because of crowded conditions on Friday and Saturday evenings.

ATTENTION PASTORS, DIRECTORS OF MISSIONS, CHURCH LEADERS:

If you are interested in a child care presentation for your local church service of worship, for the meeting of one of the church Auxiliaries, for a Pastor's conference, or for any church-related occasion, we invite you to write Mrs. Annette Hitt, the Director of Christian Education at Box 11308, Jackson, MS 39213. If you are looking for a fresh, personalized and moving mission emphasis, contact Mrs. Hitt. We want to tell our church friends through Mrs. Hitt, and those who assist her, how we tell the story of Jesus to children and how they react to a new telling of that old story.

PRESENTING OUR STAFF



Mrs. Eva Steen, left, Housemother in Bailey Cottage, Jackson campus — 9½ years of service.

Mrs. Aline McNeely, right, Housemother in Dean Cottage, Farrow Manor Campus — 7½ years of service.

## Durer Engraving Of Christ Returned To Museum By Thief

PHILADELPHIA (RNS) — "Christ Before Caiaphas," a 1512 engraving by Albrecht Durer which was stolen from the Philadelphia Museum of Art two years ago, has been returned anonymously in a plain brown envelope.

"It seems to be quite unchanged," said Kneeland McNulty, the print curator at the museum. "I recognized all the notes on the back — the title, the accession number, et cetera."

Commenting that the return of stolen artwork is experienced frequently by museums, Mr. McNulty said, "The thief is taking a ridiculous risk. Maybe he did it on a dare, or for the fun of

having for a short time something that he couldn't own."

The artwork was sent to the director of the museum. The envelope in which it had been placed was marked, "Confidential," and also contained two \$10 bills.

"It does look like someone is feeling guilty and wanted to pay us back for our trouble," Mr. McNulty said.

The print, which is valued at \$2,000, was slipped from its plexiglass cover on Dec. 10, 1976, by a young man who escaped before a woman visitor could alert a security guard.



## Building Of Faith

## Jimmy Allen Speaks At Laying Of Cornerstone In Rio de Janeiro

Jimmy Allen, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, was one of the speakers when the cornerstone was laid on Aug. 27 for the Building of Faith to be constructed in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The 22-story building is a project of the Church of Hope, a Baptist church which began in 1966 with 19 members, and now has over 300.

On one of the busiest streets of the city, the structure will be used by the Church of Hope and as headquarters of the Bible School of the Air. A company that is constructing the building will retain use of 16 floors, and let the church and radio Bible school use six floors.

An urn was placed in the hole dug for the cornerstone. It contained current newspapers, publications of Bible School of the Air, a Bible, poems, emblems, church bulletins, and coins.

In the beginning, eight years ago, no

one knew how a church with only 19 members could buy a lot on such prime property or ever have such a building. But David Gomes, pastor of the Church of Hope and preacher on the Bible School of the Air, kept declaring, "God will give us that building." Now the construction is underway.

The cornerstone laying had been planned for an earlier date, but various technicalities held it up until last month.

A total of around 1,000 people participated in some part of the day's events. Southern Baptist missionaries in attendance included Lester Bell, Victor Davis, Sophia Nichols, Glen Grober, and Jim and Maxie Kirk. Also many Brazilian Baptist leaders were present.

Victor Alves de Brito was present as representative of the governor of the state of Rio de Janeiro.

Allen's address was interpreted by Gomes. The SBC president said, "We

rejoice with all Brazilian Baptists in this laying of the cornerstone. I believe your church is well named, because you have great hope. The name of David Gomes is known across our whole Baptist world for the kind of faith he has exercised in his leadership.

Allen continued, "When the children of Israel came to cross the river Jordan, in the book of Joshua, God told them to pick up stones from the bottom of the river which had dried up. They placed the stones as a monument beside the river. The Bible says they did that so their children could ask, 'What do these stones mean?' and they could answer, 'These stones mean we are claiming the promises of God. God promised the land and now we possess it. These stones mean we have seen the barriers fall that kept us from claiming the promises. The river Jordan stopped us, but the Lord stopped the river.'

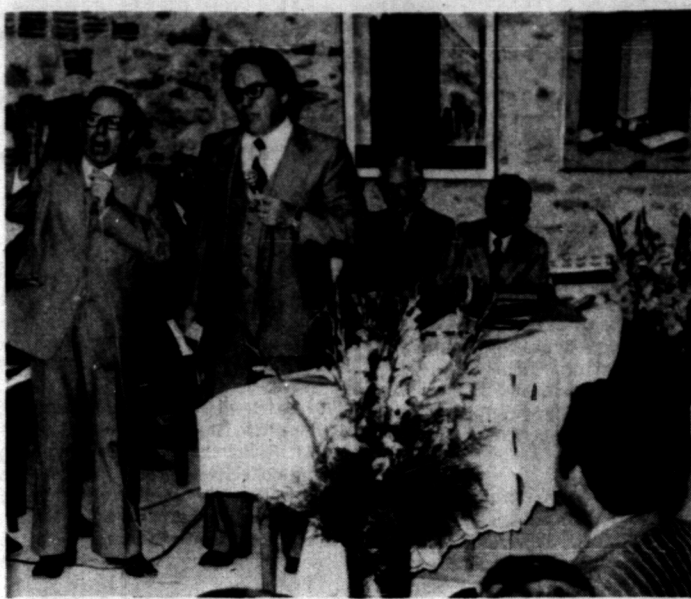
"As your children's children look at this building and ask, 'What do these stones mean?' you will be able to say, 'These stones mean we are claiming the promises of God. These stones mean that God has removed every barrier before us. These stones mean that there is greater victory in the future than we have known in the past.' God will use this church along with all the fellowship of Brazilian Baptists to reach more than a million people by 1981.

He added, "One hundred years of Baptist witness in Brazil will be the celebration of new victories to come. Your Baptist brethren all over the world will rejoice that God has given you the victory because you have had the faith."

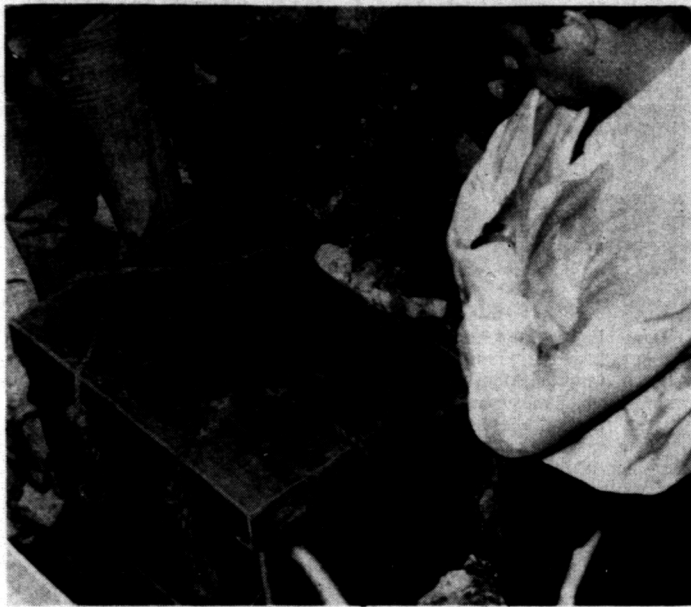
Special music was presented by choral groups from Higienopolis Church and Hope Church. Paul Moreira, Feliciano Amara, and Daniel Silva sang special hymns. A choral group from First Baptist Church of Rio presented "Cornerstone," a musical number written for the occasion by Celso de Oliveira.

A copy of the Bible was presented to each of the four construction companies. One of the men said, "This is the first Bible I have ever received as a gift."

Now as people mill down the busy Primeiro de Marco street in downtown Rio they will see on the billboards of the construction companies, the bold letters, EDIFICE OF FAITH.



David Gomes, left, was interpreter for Jimmy Allen, right, when he spoke to Baptists in Rio.



An urn was placed in the hole dug for the cornerstone of the 22-story Building of Faith, now under construction in Rio. It contained newspapers, poems, coins, a Bible, and other publications.

## Cuban Pastor Will Lead Spanish Revival

Benjamin Valdes, former pastor in Cuba, will lead a Spanish revival at Broadmoor Church, Jackson, Oct. 12-15. The first service will be held at First Church, Morton, as a joint outreach venture of the two churches, at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday. Subsequent services will be in the chapel at Broadmoor (Fri.-Sat. at 7 p.m.; Sunday morning at 10:45).

Valdes was imprisoned along with numerous other Baptist pastors by the Castro regime in 1965, and spent the following 12 years in prison. His wife and four children came to the U.S. in 1968, and he was allowed to join them following his release from prison in 1977. He is now Spanish mission pastor in Marietta, Ga.

Spanish-speaking people of the area are invited.

The Spanish pastor at Broadmoor is Curtis Ferrell. David Grant is pastor.

## Annie Armstrong Memorial Given To WMU, SBC

RIDGECREST, N. C. — The "Annie Armstrong desk" from the home of Miss Armstrong's relatives, was presented to Woman's Missionary Union, SBC, by Women's Missionary Union of Maryland and Mrs. Louise Ness of Baltimore on August 5 during the WMU conference here.

Josephine Norwood, executive secretary, and Mrs. Elwood Ulmer, president, of Maryland WMU, made the presentation to WMU, SBC president Mrs. A. Harrison Gregory, and executive director Carolyn Weatherford.

The desk was used by Miss Armstrong when she stayed with her cousin Joshua Levering, the first layman to be elected president of the SBC and founder of the forerunner of the Brotherhood. Both Joshua and his brother Eugene were special friends of WMU, giving legal advice and monetary support through Miss Armstrong. Mrs. Louise Ness is the granddaughter of Joshua Levering from whom she inherited the "Annie Armstrong desk."

The exquisitely carved desk of high-grade mahogany is a fine antique, in addition to having high sentimental value to Woman's Missionary Union.

Devotional  
Stand Up And Live

By James W. Street, Pastor, First, Wiggins  
Ezekiel 1:1-3, 28:2-2

There are some things God cannot say to a person lying down. "And he said to me, 'Son of man, stand upon your feet, and I will speak with you!'" Get up! Stand tall. Listen. Stand up and live!



Street

We do not often think of God and man in this kind of setting. We usually paint a picture of a person kneeling abjectly, awed by the awesome Presence of the Eternal. But, I repeat, there are some things God cannot say to a man lying down.

Ezekiel had done his lying down. Now some devout folk never realize there is a time to stand up. They seem to think God always demands a prostrate position. It is sad never to hear God saying to us, "Stand up."

In church, for example, some of us crawl in and out spiritually on all fours. We flagellate ourselves. We mistake self-deprecation for piety.

But, there are some things God cannot say to a person lying down. For instance, He cannot say, "I am sending you on a mission."

Why do we keep face downward in church so often? Is it because we are afraid if we stand up we may hear the voice saying, "I am sending you . . . ?" It is easier to hide face downward, proclaiming our unworthiness. When we lie down and revel in our inadequacies, there is little God can say to us.

But, when we rise to our feet spiritually and stretch our souls to hear, we may hear words like, "I am sending you on a mission."

But we can't go anywhere lying prostrate. We can't be sent on a mission on a stretcher. We cannot crawl on God's errands. We have to stand up and walk.

There are some things God cannot say to a person lying down. "Stand up," He says, "in the glory of your createdness that I may speak with you. Stand up in the dignity of being human. Stand up, for the mission is to speak to your brother!"

There are some things a man cannot say to his brother until he stands and looks him in the eye. He cannot say, "I love you; you are my brother," lying down. Unless we learn to say these things, we may destroy ourselves. Stand up and live!

## Uniform Lesson

## Reverence For God

By Jackie C. Hamilton  
Highland, Meridian  
Exodus 20:3-7

In an examination of the first of the Ten Commandments, there is its relation to the others: the first section refers to our love for God, namely no other gods, no images, no blasphemy and no irreverence; the second section refers to our love for others, namely, no disrespect, no murder, no adultery, no stealing, no false witness, no coveting. Thus man's duties to God are outlined and then man's responsibilities to his fellowmen are detailed.

When God speaks that He is "thy God" He brings to Israel, especially, the relationship of personal interest and association. He is the God of each person, whether of the former generation or those living in the present. He is the one "who brought thee out of the land of Egypt." God here acts in the affairs of men and controls history.

The exodus was the greatest event in Israel's history. It has remained as a sign and seal of divine intervention on behalf of God's elect. The first commandment is an invitation to believe that God comes to us in a personal way; that He acts on our behalf; and that He is to be the sovereign Lord over all.

Another factor in this experience for Israel is the truth of their liberation from slavery. Thus this act of God brought freedom for them and was the beginning of all the freedoms which man enjoys now.

"Thou shalt have no other Gods" actually means there are no other gods besides God. This idea of the unit of God is basic to faith and truth. It also rules out any doctrine of chance or luck. He who believes in God in the light of the first commandment will never worship anyone else or give worship to any other shrine but the throne of God. Neither angels nor persons are to receive adoration in homage or be supplicated for help.

The Jew today does not pray to "saints" or to "prophet" but to God alone. How important for those who are not Jews to learn from them in this sublime act of "God alone" in the one faith which is the faith.

## One Master

In Matthew 6:24, the reference is made to "one Master." Our Lord who knew the Old Testament well based his

teaching upon its fundamental principles. The one God revealed to Israel produced the One Faith and the One Confession. In this light we see how there is but one Master — God is the Lord of all.

A true life for God cannot be double-minded or spend its strength in double focus. Consecration is concentration. In our complex days it seems possible to serve more than one master, whereas a slave in the first century could not. Yet the teaching is clear that for the best life there must be devotion to the ONE. The spiritual

life is dependent upon this. God cannot share our devotion with any other.

Mammon here is the synonym for power, and power usually means money or gain; not that the use of money is wrong in itself. It can become the occasion of evil and wrongdoing; it can distort and pervert values in life; it can blind the soul until God is shut out. As covetousness is idolatry, we see the stern nature of our Lord's moral standard for the Christian disciple. We become the slaves of those, or of that which, we worship. That is why some think of money as a god, and

Life and Work Lesson  
For Sinners Only

By Bill Duncan  
Long Beach, First  
Luke 5:27-32; 18:9-14

The first time in modern times a republican candidate for governor in Mississippi ran for office, many people were shocked. It was reported that one man in north Mississippi thought the candidate was a "publican" and he would not have anything to do with him.

There is no doubt that the publicans in Bible times were despised. They were regarded as the lowest of sinners by the Pharisees, who were strong nationalists and hated Rome with a passion. The publicans were tools of the Romans, for collecting taxes.

In Capernaum Jesus passed by the receipt of customs (tax booth) and saw Levi, the publican, who is elsewhere called Matthew. When Jesus saw him, He simply said, "Follow me." It was a command to follow Jesus permanently as a disciple. The Lord challenged him to change his occupation. Without hesitation he turned his back on the custom-house and kept following Jesus in his new calling.

## A Celebration

It was a significant day in the publican's life. In fact, it called for a celebration — so in honor of Jesus, he gave a

great feast and invited his friends — other publicans and social outcasts.

Naturally, the Pharisees were not invited. They did observe, watch, and discuss the occasion. If they had been invited they would have refused to come. They even questioned Jesus for going and eating "with the publicans and sinners." The article "the" indicates they put the two in the same group.

The response of Jesus was, "Where do you expect to find a physician but among the sick?" So the physician of souls was where He was needed. Alas, the Pharisees needed Him equally as much. But the Physician was helpless before their obstinate wills. Jesus stood ready to heal them, but He, like any ethical doctor, would not force Himself upon them.

"I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance" (Luke 5:32). Repentance means change of heart, mind, attitude, or the entire direction of one's life. The righteous Pharisees saw no need to change, so Jesus could do nothing for them. The "sinners" recognized their need, and found in Jesus the power to effect that to which He called them.

Later, Jesus illustrated this situa-

some pursue power as their goal or god in this life.

The caption of Exodus 20:4-6 is "no graven images." Idolatry in any form is protested. Life is not lived in a vacuum. This is an age of lost hope and faith. Hearts and lives are full of emptiness and frustration. Men are disillusioned. The false gods always come in when the true God is disowned. The Philistines worshiped an idol called Dagon, the fish god. The grotesqueness of the idea and the form conceived are startling when alongside of the true God of Israel. But the Dagon is still intruding into this generation.

This commandment forbids the worship of the one God in the wrong

way. Judaism from the first taught that God was a spirit; and obligation allowed no man-made thing to intrude between the soul and God. External forms or shapes were forbidden. Representations of the Divine were forbidden. What is condemned is the use of worship of things.

There was to be no bowing down after the shaping of a likeness (whether on earth or out of the earth). In that act lies the deadly power of idolatry. We obey whom we worship. Modern age has become accustomed to men bowing down at the shrine of success. No wonder we have a generation of breakdowns in morale, in morality, in physical and mental well-being. Even the church as an institution can become an idol and an end itself.



The publican was altogether different. He would not even stand near the righteous man because he felt unworthy. He may have even stood outside the entrance to the court of Israel. He felt so unworthy that he did not lift his head. In his grief he kept on beating on his chest repeating, "God, be merciful to me a sinner." He felt so guilty. He knew only the hope which was in God's mercy. The Pharisee confessed the sins of others, but the publican confessed his own gross sin.

The Pharisee was too proud to pray; he could only remind God of the reward due to him. The publican was so convicted of his sins that he could not keep from praying, not for reward but for mercy.

The publican and the Pharisee were both sinners. The difference was that one recognized his sin and the other did not. The publican received an answer to his prayer and was accepted by God. The Pharisee received nothing from God because he recognized no need and he asked for nothing.

In this great lesson, Jesus is throwing open the door of salvation. All might answer the call, but they must come as sinners crying out for mercy. To come to God upon grounds of good deeds shuts one off from the mercy and forgiveness. God's grace is free and open to all who will accept the Savior of sinners only.

The mentioning of the virtues of fasting and tithing implied that God owed him something. He fasted more and tithed more than the law required.